THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE

VOLUME 29 ★ NUMBER 19 JANUARY 8, 2010

I Should Totally Fill Out That **2009-2010 Music Poll Ballot** on p.40

LISTEN, MY FRIENDS!

'You thought never / but I'm yours forever / Won't leave you ever'

learn your scales, then forget your scales



Moby Grape's 1967 Debut Remains the 'Citizen Kane' of Classic Rock Albums

BY LOUIS BLACK P.41

THE FRONTERAFEST WAY ★ FULL SCHEDULE ON P.25

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VERIFIED AUDIT CIRCULATION

The Austin Chronicle (ISSN: 1074-0740) is published by The Austin Chronicle Corporation weekly 52 times per year at 4000 N. I-35, Austin, TX 78751. 512/454-5766

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Subscriptions: One year: $60 2nd class. Half-year: $35 2nd class. Periodicals Postage Paid at Austin, TX.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to *The Austin Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765.

Unsolicited submissions (including but not limited to articles, artwork, photographs, and résumés) are not returned.

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The Place and the Time

Moby Grape's whale of a tale and discography too

BY LOUIS BLACK

Out of some slim sense of common decency, this column will be unusually short, as the cover story this issue is my 7,000-word-plus piece on Moby Grape – and, at that, it's not really focused on the entire history and discography of the famed San Francisco late Sixties group as much as it is on their first album. This may seem more than excessive, and to that I offer no defense.

Recently, after being rebuked in the *Chronicle*'s "Postmarks" section for going on at such great length in this column, it was suggested that rather than get paid by the word, I should put myself on a fixed salary. The person who wrote in obviously figured the only reason my pieces are so endless was so that I could up the size of my check.

page two

Regrettably, I am on a fixed salary. I get paid the same whether I write or I don't write. This allows me to write when and on what I want, as well as limiting my length only out of passing compassion for my "Page Two" editor, Cindy Widner; other editors; and readers. I do reject the notion that articles that go on too long hurt the quality of the paper, as one can simply stop reading if one tires of a piece, but this might just be self-protective justification.

One of the many things I love about Austin, and why the *Chronicle* and I fit in, is a sense of not just respect for but obligation to the past: to the art and the artists, the music and the musicians, the politics and the politicians, the scenes and scenesters, writing and writers, and so on, who came before us and to whom our current sensibilities are inextricably bound and on whom we are more than significantly dependent.

This is a piece I have been promising myself that I would write for years, a piece I've always felt I owed. Owed not to the *Chronicle* or its readers, but to the album, and maybe to who I am because of that album.

Please bear with me here. The piece appears now for no specific reason other than that I woke up one day knowing that it was the time to write it. I began this past June and July. Even as long as the piece is in this issue, there were drafts that ran 12,000-15,000 words, and there are a good 18,000-20,000 words trimmed from the original piece (including eight appendices of varying lengths).

This piece was first turned in to Music Editor Raoul Hernandez in a different, longer draft. Based on his feedback and notes, the article that appears here was crafted. When Raoul and I talked about running the piece, we agreed that, given its length, we might need to run it in two or more installments and, at the very least, some chunk of it would have to be online only.

It wasn't until this past Tuesday that I realized it would be running in this issue, uncut and as the cover story. I was not involved in any of those decisions. Now, I realize to most readers my denial of involvement and thus lack of aggressive self-promotion probably rings as true as Tori Spelling's claim that she tried out for and was cast in *Beverly Hills, 90120* anonymously rather than relying on the fact her father was the producer. So be it.

What Moby Grape recordings are in print at any given time is a crapshoot. The Moby Grape discography includes:

- The four original albums:
  Moby Grape
  Wow/Grape Jam
  Moby Grape '69
  Truly Fine Citizen
- Reunion albums *20 Granite Creek* (1971) and *Moby Grape '84* (1984)
- Live recordings, among them:
  Live Grape (1978)
  Going Down, Live at Ebbets Field, Denver, May 8, 1974, on a French label

In 1989, a cassette with 10 tracks by the Melvilles (get it?) was released. In 2003, with songs added on CD, it was re-released as *Legendary Grape*, credited to all five original members, though Skip Spence is there only in spirit and as a songwriter.

Matthew Katz formed a faux Moby Grape with none of the original members, but I don't think they released any recordings.

There are foreign releases and other live bootlegs. There are also a number of Moby Grape compilations.

Currently, as far as I know, *Moby Grape* and *Wow/Grape Jam* aren't officially available in the U.S. If one is unfamiliar with Moby Grape, I strongly recommend the compilations:

Vintage – The Very Best of Moby Grape (1993): A 2-CD set that includes all the cuts from *Moby Grape* and a detailed overview of the rest of the catalog, including alternative takes, live material, and previously unreleased versions of Grape songs. Litigation aborted its official release, but used copies turn up frequently.

Listen My Friends! The Best of Moby Grape (2007): Six of the 20 tracks are from *Moby Grape*, but it doesn't include "Naked if I Want To."

If one is already a fan, there probably isn't much to say – except if you don't have *Moby Grape: The Place and the Time*, released by Sundazed in 2009, you really should. It features alternative, live, audition, and demo versions of many great Grape songs.

Finally, the piece is dedicated to Alan Philpot, who in so many ways, most of which he'd loudly deny, is the one most responsible. ■





Postmarks

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR must be signed with full name and include daytime phone number, full address, or e-mail address. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Letters may not be edited, added to, or changed by sender once we receive them.

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SOMETHING WRONG IN PEREZ CASE

Dear Editor,

Re: "APD Dismissal: Religion, Incompetence … or Psychological Misconduct?" [News, Dec. 25]: I am not a big fan of people being incompetent, losing their jobs, and going to court for redress. However, in this case, something is wrong. If Ramon Perez was such a (safety) risk that Assistant City Attorney Chris Edwards insisted "that to put Perez on the street would be to risk not only his own safety but also that of other officers and Austin residents," why allow him to resign and keep his peace officer's license? If he is that much of a danger, then termination with loss of his peace officer's license would be the proper action. This sounds a bit disingenuous by the Austin Police Department, Edwards, Jesse Brown, Daniel Zahara, and Carol Logan. Actually, if the facts are as they are laid out in this article, then ACA Edwards, Brown, Zahara, and Logan should be terminated for incompetence. At the very least, all should have some disciplinary action taken against them for allowing such a deranged and incompetent person to keep his peace officer's license, thereby putting the citizens of any jurisdiction in which Perez works as a peace officer at risk.

Jeffery Grajek

THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

Dear Editor,

I went to lunch yesterday with four guys from our department. At one table, there were three lieutenants in combat fatigues and each had a long, long face. I was going to try to do something to show my appreciation by buying their lunch anonymously. I stopped our waitress, showed her my credit card, and started, "That table with the servicemen …" and she interrupted, "Somebody already picked up their tab," which I thought was just so cool. As they rose to leave, I shook hands with the tallest one and said what I always say: "Thank you for your service." He said, "Thank you for your patriotism." You could have knocked me over with a feather. They had all been to the Middle East, and they were all going back in a few days. At this point, there was nothing to say … just nod, blink, and mouth the word "thanks."

Kelly M. McDaniel

A LOVE LETTER TO AUSTIN

Dear Editor,

I wasn't born in Texas, but I did get here as quick as I could. While there was a plethora of reasons why I wanted to move to Austin, film is what brought me. Richard Linklater, more specifically, for *Suburbia*, *Waking Life*, etc. and for co-founding the Austin Film Society, where I obtained an internship in the spring of '08 and for which I moved from San Diego, Calif. Having never set foot in Austin, with all my earthly possessions in tow, I journeyed here with the hope

CONTINUED ON P.6

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that everything I'd heard about this place was true. This January marks my second year in Austin, and here is what I have to say about it.

This town thrives on passion – passion for music, for movies, food, art, wine, politics, dancing, the outdoors, education, barbecue, football. Passion for creating the life we desire, for making dreams into reality. I have never lived anywhere where people care as much about their city as they do in Austin. It is evident in all aspects of life, in grocery stores, restaurants, recreational activities, movie theatres, bookstores, and fundraising events. I am proud to work at the locally owned and oh-so-delicious Galaxy Cafe and am proud to have worked for the Austin Film Society. Both places were created by and are staffed by exceptional people who, in their passion for quality and experience, have improved life in their community. In these and so many other ways, Austin has exceeded my expectations and made me most beholden to all the people who make this glorious city what it is.

So, for the Austin Film Society, Galaxy Cafe, the Alamo Drafthouse, Wheatsville, Waterloo, KGSR, BookPeople, ACL, the Paramount, Texas Film Commission, Central Market, UT and KUT, I Luv Video, Amy's, Esther's Follies, Austin Java, the Mean-Eyed Cat, Dog and Duck, Deep Eddy, Zilker Park, Barton Springs, South Congress, Hyde Park, South First, all the musicians, the music venues, the community, all you independent businesses, for everything, *thank you, Austin* for being my new home. To the tenacious, hard-working, hard-partying, music-lovin', dog-walking, bike-riding, springs-swimmin', movie-watchin', dream-livin', ever-lovin', and beautiful city, keep doin' what you do. Here's to a glorious 2010!

And last but not least, here's to the *Chronicle*! Thanks for printing the positive and the negative, the praise and the dissent, the arts, events, reviews, music, everything going on around this lovely town! Rock on, and happy New Year!

Danielle Burnett

SHAME ON YOU ATHEISTS

Dear Editor,

Shame on you atheists. Who are you to dictate to others, and why do you even care to block other beliefs when you are free to practice your own? Why would you even care to impose yourselves on individuals who, for the most part, are peace-loving people. Why condemn a season of love and joy? You say religion is superstition. To each his own if you prefer a meaningless existence. Leave others alone!

An agnostic,
Dennis Galliera



REMINDER OF CAP METRO'S PAST CLAIMS

Dear Editor,

Re: "Cap Met/Veolia War of Words Gets Nasty" [Newsdesk blog, Dec. 21]: Since none of us, yours truly included, have access to the information inside the rail project itself, it would be helpful for readers trying to decide who to trust in the "war of words" if the *Chronicle* were to remind them of past claims by Capital Metro that turned out to be false – like the attempt to blame Veolia Transportation for the original delays (way back in the first quarter of 2009). As it turns out, Veolia played nice and allowed themselves to be the scapegoat for signaling problems that even now have yet to be completely fixed.

Regards,
Mike Dahmus

THE INTEREST IS IN HUNTERS BEND

Dear Editor,

Re: "TXI Dust Not Settled" ["Naked City," News, Jan. 1]: As TXI well knows, they are requesting a permit to mine gravel on Hunters Bend, not Hornsby Bend. Hornsby Bend has been ruined for years. Hunters Bend, the next bend on the Colorado, is undisturbed, except for housing developments. Among other things, there are 800 acres of irrigated pecan orchards on Hunters Bend. They will not be mined because the owners would not sell to TXI. I believe that TXI purposely chose Hornsby East and Hornsby West for the names of their mining sites here on Hunters Bend. Most persons reading the name of the projects will immediately make a connection to Hornsby Bend.

Judith Holden

SKI SHORES WILL REOPEN

Dear Editor,

Re: Another Austin institution bids farewell ["Headlines," News, Jan. 1]: "The Ski Shores Waterfront Cafe, a Lake Austin burger and live music joint, is closing its doors after many decades. Owners George and Dianne Levy notified patrons and friends of the closing in a mass e-mail Tuesday, signing off, 'Goodbye to all, good health and god speed.'"

The facts are that Ski Shores Cafe was built by our family in the early 1950s and has been owned by our family since that time. George Levy has been a tenant/operator whose lease has expired and will not be renewed. Ski Shores is temporarily closed for repairs and maintenance and will soon reopen under new management.

Yours very truly,
Brad Fowler

DO HAVE REGULATORY AUTHORITY

Dear Editor,

Re: "Naked City" [News, Jan. 1]: I am unclear why our local media keeps relaying that the county and state have no statutory or regulatory authority to deny the TXI Hornsby Bend Gravel Pit permit application without responding to this misperception. This is a highly inaccurate claim to communicate, as state statute (in any state, including Texas) binds the states and all applicable local governments to federal law requirements and compliance authority actions (be it Environmental Protection Agency, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Federal Highway Administration, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Clean Air Act, Clean Water Act, National Environmental Policy Act especially, SAFETEA-LU, et al.).

Numerous district and U.S. Supreme Court rulings have also been upheld in favor of such counties and states to deny such permits on the grounds of public health and safety protections (federal agency and law defined rock, sand, and gravel as air/water pollutants), as well.

Court rulings have also upheld that a county's denial of such a permit is not determined as zoning regulation (or attempts thereof without such granted authority), but "as an ordinance measure" to protect public health and safety from federally defined pollutants.

Travis County's own ordinances provide them with such basis to deny on such a measure.

We have provided the county with numerous, numerous supportive federal, state, and court laws, rules and regulations, and court upheld precedence as evidence, as well, so they are well aware of their legal ability to deny the permit.

There is financial gain/benefit in approving the permit, not lack of regulatory authority, and this is the only reason for some of them to claim that their hands are tied (until it is for a handout).

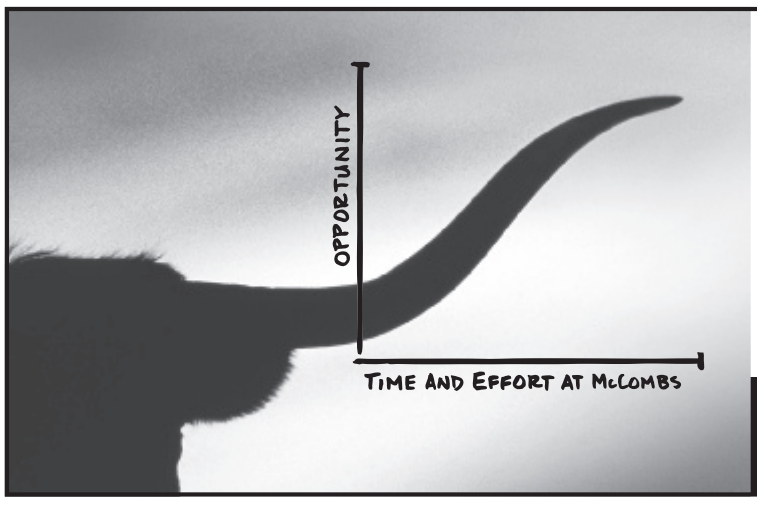
Caraly Foreman

FOR-PROFITS AND HEALTH CARE

Dear Editor,

Whatever the philosophical or ideological ramifications of using for-profit companies to deliver a social good, I have some experience on how this actually works. My close friend is disabled with Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy/Complex Regional Pain Syndrome. Imagine having molten lead injected

CONTINUED ON P.8



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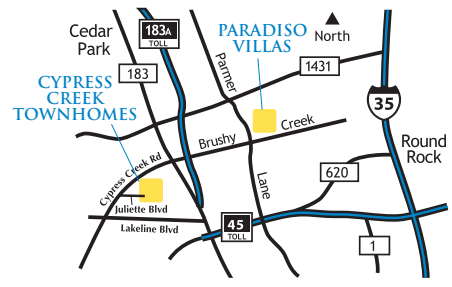
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into your body. Seriously. Neuropathic pain can be *worse* than cancer pain. This condition was *caused* by refusal to properly treat. Contrary to Republican propaganda, it is not easy to file a malpractice suit and is impossible under tort reform. Under the previous system, she was eligible for "dual enrollment in Medicare/Medicaid" with Medicaid paying for her meds. Our problem then was finding proper treatment. We found a doctor who is successfully treating her condition, allowing her to get out of bed and not need a wheelchair. Our problem now is that the for-profit insurance companies have a financial incentive to deny her care. Medical decisions are made by underpaid, uneducated phone workers who (as we know from recent testimony) are tasked with *denying* care. The prescribing decisions of a world-renowned specialist is overruled by phone workers who (at least pretend) to not understand the word "ingredient," to name but one example. Under the new health bill this situation is not addressed. Using for-profit companies to provide a social good is unworkable because the incentive for the company is to make money. This is contrary to the goal of providing health care. My experience *proves* this. This is not an ideological position; it has been my friend's life since the passage of Medicare Part D. Every company acts identically, so it cannot be the fault of individual companies; it is a bad system.

Tom Cuddy

THE LOTTERY IS BAD FOR SOCIETY

Dear Editor,

The recent Texas lottery prize was approximately $160 million. What a wretched game! Nobody needs $160 million. The lottery apparently doesn't want to help society. It could easily become a force for good in the world. Instead of awarding $160 million to one person, it could have 1,600 winners collecting $100,000 each. Whose financial situation would not be massively improved with $100,000? Another good approach would be to award 3,200 people $50,000 each. Spreading the wealth is good for the people, good for the commonwealth. Money is like manure. It has to be spread around to do any good. When concentrated, it causes too many problems – it promotes mental illness and wrecks the economy.

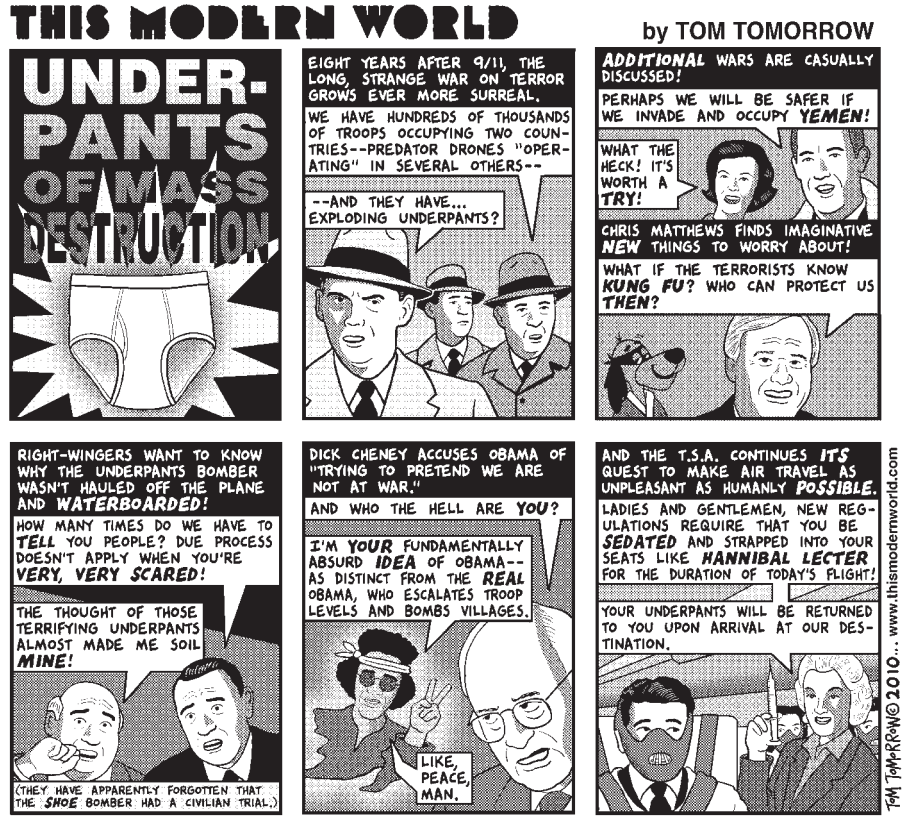
John O'Neill

SUPPORTS SMOKING BAN

Dear Editor,

Regarding Austin Powell's complaint about the ban on smoking a "perfectly legal substance" ["Off the Record," Music, Jan. 1]. Bleach and rat poison are perfectly legal substances too, but we don't allow *them* to be sprayed in people's faces in public places either. And while it's a shame for Room 710 that they lost half their business, perhaps they should point the finger where it belongs – at the self-centered customers who stayed home pouting about their precious nicotine addiction instead of supporting a local venue by enjoying some amazing live music.

Kristin Casey



PERMIT THE ROAD BEFORE THE MINE

Dear Editor,

Re: "Naked City" [News, Jan. 1]: When TXI first applied for a permit to mine sand and gravel in our Hunters Bend residential neighborhood, the plan called for a conveyor to move raw materials to an existing plant in Webberville. Now, because the conveyor would have required a variance hearing with citizen input, TXI has decided it instead wants to use FM 969 to move 710 trucks per day along an already dangerous stretch of road used by thousands of commuters. The people of Webberville and points east have *not* been informed or consulted about this 20-year project with its 3-mile death zone of truck traffic. The roadway improvements that TXI has promised to make in order to put 710 trucks out there with all those unsuspecting residents need to be permitted *before* TXI is issued a mining permit.

Richard Macdonald

TEXAN WITH A UTAH DISTILLERY

Dear Editor,

Re: "Drink Texas This New Year" [Food, Dec. 25]: Great article. I'm a native West Texan (Crane) who has a distillery in Ogden, Utah. I created a handcrafted herbal spirit named Underground that is very popular in Utah and coming to Texas soon. It has 33 herbs, spices, and natural flavors and is 40% alcohol by volume. It's a smooth shooter like none other; mixes very well with cream liqueurs, energy drinks, and root beer; and makes a great spicy Bloody Mary.

Tim Smith
Ogden, Utah

UNMANNED WEAPONS NOT SO TIDY

Dear Editor,

Unmanned weapons may seem tidy, but they only put a smiley face on the brutality of modern warfare. Here's betting that a sizable portion of the international community views our high tech form of killing folks – from the safety and comfort of a command center in Nevada – to be as cowardly as that of a suicide bomber. Drones and robotics can't discern friend from foe. They kill indiscriminately. Any goodwill garnered from the president's conciliatory trip to the Mideast is laid to waste every time a Predator missile takes out an Afghan or Pakistani family.

Mike Rieman

'7 OF 9'

Dear Editor,

Reading last week's issue with the Top 9 Letters of 2009 ["Postmarks," Jan. 1]: I thought I would see my own clever witty one there. But, no, I find my significant other's letter. Still, she's "7 of 9." You know, I've always thought of her that way myself.

Bryce Welch

LEGALIZE MARIJUANA

Dear Editor,

Regarding Jordan Smith's Jan. 1 column ["Top 9 Joints," News]: The drug war is largely a war on marijuana smokers. In 2008, there were 847,863 marijuana arrests in the U.S., almost 90% for simple possession. At a time when state and local governments are laying off police, firefighters, and teachers, this country continues to spend enormous public resources criminalizing Americans who prefer marijuana to martinis. The end result of this ongoing culture war is not necessarily lower rates of use.

The U.S. has higher rates of marijuana use than the Netherlands, where marijuana is legally available. Decriminalization is a long overdue step in the right direction. Taxing and regulating marijuana would render the drug war obsolete. As long as organized crime controls marijuana distribution, consumers will continue to come into contact with sellers of hard drugs like cocaine and meth. This "gateway" is a direct result of marijuana prohibition.

Sincerely,
Robert Sharpe
Policy analyst
Common Sense for Drug Policy
Washington, D.C.



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MetroExpress 31-Day Pass	$63.00
MetroExpress 31-Day Pass REDUCED*	$31.50
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List of confirmed sessions: **sxsw.com/interactive/talks/panels**

SXSW FILM Interviews include Academy Award-winning Argentine composer, solo artist and producer, **Gustavo Santaolalla**, and comics legend **Gilbert Shelton**.
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SXSW MUSIC **Smokey Robinson** is set to deliver the keynote address on Thursday, March 18th. SXSW Music has announced over 450 showcasing artists for 2010. Hundreds more to come!
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Headlines

- City Council doesn't meet until Jan. 14 – benefiting council members heading west to attend the Longhorns' **National Championship** game – but the agenda's posted already: a controversial police promotion and repairs to Barton Springs Pool are among the items under consideration. See "City Hall Hustle," p.12.
- Batten down the hatches, wrap the pipes, and bring the outside dogs inside: Weather forecasters and **Austin Energy** have issued warnings of wickedly cold winds arriving Thursday morning, with the big chill expected to hold steady through the early part of the weekend. AE customers should report power outages to 322-9100.
- With winter temperatures dropping into the teens, Council Member **Laura Morrison** is encouraging Austin's homeless to find shelter, either at the **Austin Resource Center for the Homeless** or the **Salvation Army**. In a similar vein, charity organization **House the Homeless** is still accepting contributions to its thermal underwear drive. Donate at **www.housethehomeless.org**.
- Filing for the **March 2 primaries** closed Jan. 4 with a flurry of last-minute paperwork by Travis County Republicans in legislative races and some race-switching among Democrats seeking judicial seats. See "And They're Off!," p.14.
- Dallas-based PBS affiliate KERA has invited sometime-secessionist and Republican gubernatorial hopeful **Debra Medina** to join Gov. **Rick Perry** and Sen. **Kay Bailey Hutchison** in its televised Jan. 14 primary debate. No word yet if there will be any such event for the seven Democrats who've filed for their party's nomination.



Debra Medina

- Austin's new laws restricting drivers from **texting**, surfing the web, and indulging in other distracting behavior when they're supposed to have their hands on the wheel took effect Jan. 1.
- Travis County Democrats were saddened by the unexpected Jan. 4 death of seasoned campaign pro and respected strategist **Kelly Fero**. A respected journalist, author, and musician before he took to politics, Fero was 57. See "Fero Helped Make, Break Political Careers," p.16.
- **IBM Corp**. and the state of Texas have agreed in principle to restructure the $863 million contract for two new data centers, intended to centralize and simplify records management for 27 state agencies. The project has been plagued with delays and security concerns, as well as agency dissatisfaction with its progress.
- Between jobs? The **Census Bureau** is looking to hire a few thousand short-term workers to assist in the collection of 2010 data in the Austin area. See **www.2010.census.gov/2010censusjobs** for more info.
- Austin has recorded its first murder of the year; police say **Justin Jamal Mendez** was found Jan. 6, shot to death in his car in the 4600 block of Bandera Road.



JOHN ANDERSON

A festive pedal pusher waves to parade watchers at the annual First Night event on New Year's Eve.

Health Care Is the Least of It

The debate in Washington and at home is about how to be a workable country

BY MICHAEL KING

point austin

If you're unsure where you stand on the epic national health care debate, you're not alone. Austin Congressman Lloyd Doggett has been in the middle of the discussion for months, and he told me this week during his stay in Austin that he remains uncertain whether he'll be able to vote for passage of a final bill. "In terms of whether anything is salvageable," Doggett said, "I would just say I am not committed to vote for this bill yet, until I see what it is. I don't believe that 'any bill is better than no bill.' The Senate bill, the more I hear about it … it certainly tests to the very outer limits my willingness to vote for it."

When we last left this argument, just before Christmas, a recalcitrant Senate had just barely managed to pass its version of the "reform" act (visualize those uncertain quotation marks around every subsequent reference), and officially the House and Senate are now conferring over how to reconcile their two versions of the proposed law. This week, the Democratic leadership announced there would be no formal "conference committee"; instead, in a process known informally as "ping-ponging" and designed to avoid procedural delays, the leadership would meet with interested parties on both sides to draft a bill that would then receive up-or-down votes in both houses. The process will still likely take a while, as there remain significant and potentially unresolvable differences in the two adopted versions.

Doggett was among 60 House Democrats who wrote to Speaker Nancy Pelosi in July: "Any bill that does not provide, at a minimum, for a public option with reimbursement rates based on Medicare rates – not negotiated rates – is unacceptable." After intransigent Senate opposition, the surviving remnants of a "public option" are "health care exchanges" – insurance cooperatives that would in theory allow consumers some independence from the big monopolies – of uncertain utility and subject to "opt out" provisions from state to state. As Doggett points out – given the state record of doing only the absolute minimum on the Children's Health Insurance and Medicaid programs – we would expect Texas to choose "a substandard, second-rate system" with a diminished risk pool and no national negotiating strength, likely delivering "second-rate coverage at top-tier prices."

CONTINUED ON P.13

QUOTE of the WEEK



"I should have shot him when I had the chance."

– Land Commissioner Jerry Patterson, quoted in Quorum Report, after learning he had drawn former state Sen. Hector Uribe as a challenger in the general election. The two had minor roles in *The Alamo*, filmed near Austin.

Naked City

› **ANOTHER ARA BUSINESS SHUTTERED** For the second time within a year, an apparently promising restaurant with the **Austin Revitalization Authority** as a landlord has closed its doors. "[T]he main reason for our decision is that our landlord, Austin Revitalization Authority, refused to renegotiate the terms of our lease to make them more aligned with industry averages, the location and the density of the area," wrote **Primizie Osteria** owners Lisa and Mark Spedale in an e-mail. "All of our decisions and projections for the restaurant were based on four multi-use developments which were to have been completed on the 11th/12th street corridors. As you probably know from the countless articles on the development of this area, the City of Austin and the Austin Revitalization Authority have failed to deliver on all accounts." The Spedales said they have no plans to relocate. A call requesting comment from ARA interim CEO Greg Smith was not returned. The city recently conducted an audit of ARA that gave a mixed grade to the organization's Central East Austin revitalization efforts; the City Council must decide by March 30 whether to continue its approximately $250,000 per year relationship with the ARA. – *Lee Nichols*

› **STIMULUS CASH FOR GREEN INITIATIVES** The feds are using stimulus cash to jump-start employment and energy efficiency in the electricity industry. On Jan. 4, the city of Austin announced that it will receive $7.5 million in **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act** stimulus funds for **energy efficiency programs** at city-owned facilities. The project will include such measures as replacing outdoor lighting with greener LEDs and installing a thermal energy storage system at the East Austin Technicenter Drive building and should save 5 million kilowatt-hours of electricity a year (enough power for 400 homes) and create 100 green-collar jobs. U.S. Rep. Lloyd Doggett followed this news with a Jan. 6 announcement that another $4.8 million in ARRA cash goes to **Austin's Electrical Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee** as part of a program to train 1,000 workers to develop and staff solar power plants across the Southwest. "[T]his training will provide workers with the nuts and the bolts to construct a thriving clean energy economy right here in Central Texas," Doggett said. – *Richard Whittaker*

› **ALL THINGS IN MODERATION, EVEN TASERS** In a Dec. 28 ruling, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals concluded that the use of a **Taser** weapon during a minor traffic stop is excessive use of force. The ruling comes from a case out of Coronado, Calif., where 21-year-old **Carl Bryan** was struck with a Taser after he'd been stopped for not wearing a seat belt. Bryan had gotten out of his car during the stop, and although he was standing more than 20 feet away from Officer **Brian McPherson**, the officer shot him with the weapon after he said Bryan took "one step" toward the officer. The evidence, however, demonstrated that Bryan was actually facing away from McPherson at the time he was hit. Bryan fell face first on the asphalt, breaking four teeth, and a surgeon had to remove the Taser probe from his upper left arm where it embedded into his skin. A reasonable officer with proper training would have "foreseen these physical injuries when confronting a shirtless individual standing on asphalt," the court wrote. The court further noted that although Tasers are considered nonlethal weapons, that doesn't mean they're not dangerous and cannot be abused: "non-lethal … is not synonymous with non-excessive." – *Jordan Smith*

NEWS

NEW YEAR WISH LIST

From cops to condos, we got your splash pads right here

BY WELLS DUNBAR

No sooner had the Hustle started ticking off his list of "forbidden words" from 2009 – oldies but not-so-goodies like "planned unit development," "vital logic," and "hunker down," painful locutions we'd do well to exile into early retirement – than we've already got another contender for the new year.

That would be "**hearing examiner**." As in the city document stating, "The Hearing Examiner ruled that the Chief of Police did not have a valid reason to bypass Lieutenant [Wayne] Demoss to the rank of Commander and ordered that he 'be promoted to a Commander position and be made whole.'"

The summertime decision of Austin Police Department Chief **Art Acevedo** to bypass Demoss' promotion to commander – citing Demoss' admitted visit to a brothel in Panama (proffered with the "smoked but didn't inhale"-esque appendix that he didn't pay for any services) and his failure to recognize City Manager **Marc Ott** – was appealed this fall. A December opinion from the hearing examiner (an arbitrator brought in to resolve the issue), his decision binding per the terms of the police labor contract with the city, overturned Acevedo's decision. Now, at their first meeting of 2010, Acevedo's looking to the City Council to remedy the situation.

Item 24 would increase the number of commander positions from 19 to 20, while reducing the number of beat cops by one, to 1,004. The extra commander position is needed, since after bypassing Demoss, Acevedo promoted the next candidate in line and is loath to bump the promoted officer back down. According to backup info, APD "intends to revisit the need for this additional Commander position at a later date and may ask Council to abolish it at that time."

Despite a lack of fiscal impact, council members have made disapproving murmurs to the press regarding the request: Mayor pro tem and public safety maven **Mike Martinez** told the *Austin American-Statesman* last month that he supported a temporary demotion of the new promotee, **Patrick Ockletree**, over creation of a new commander position. But as American Civil Liberties Union Central Texas Chapter President **Debbie Russell** pointed out to the council via e-mail, Acevedo has "added and subtracted Lieutenants, Commanders, Sergeants, etc. several times in the past year" – moves with no financial impact, made with council's acquiescence.

We'll have to wait another week to find out, as council doesn't convene until Jan. 14. But with this meeting the first to take effect under new rules posting the draft council agenda two weeks in advance, it's generating advance buzz – not just the reshuffling, but the larger question of police civil service code and its effect on keeping chiefs like Acevedo from promoting based on merit vs. standing.

Similarly, other issues will have another week to percolate in the local consciousness. Item 40 opens a public hearing on whether to create a site-specific amendment to the city's **Save Our Springs Initiative** governing construction over the aquifer, and a related variance to allow construction to repair problems at Barton Springs. Major flooding around the turn of the century created a bar of rocks and gravel in the pool, which officials say is growing and has hindered cleanliness and clouded the waters. To remove the rocks, the city proposes using a crane, which requires a temporary crane pad and an access road just south of the pool – hence the need for the variances. However, the temporary closure of the springs, plus the possible invasiveness of the cleanup, should ensure that the issue doesn't arise without discussion.

city hall hustle

Likewise, Item 31, a staff briefing on the recommendations of the **Downtown Austin Plan Density Bonus Report**, should inspire discussion – or at least deserves to. The DAP, due this year from contractor ROMA Design Group, has been preceded by years of discussion and disagreement, and the argument over density bonuses has been among the most contentious. While recent discussion has focused on plans for the **Warehouse District** – where buildings marked for historic preservation might enable the landowners to "sell" extra density allowances to other, more density-friendly Downtown plots – larger questions still persist. Those questions include affordable housing contributions, setting fees for other public benefits like open space and community centers, and the potential, outlined last summer, of exempting commercial developments (offices, hotels) from specific benefit fees for increased density – staff having apparently concluded that the exchange isn't worth the bennies.

Racheting down the controversy a bit: Items 6 through 9 will make good on promises from last summer's city budget discussion, during which several park pools slated for closure were promised **splash pads** – fountainlike water features for the kids – in exchange. The city is allocating cash to install the pads at Bailey, Bartholomew, West Austin, Clarksville, Lott, Chestnut, and Eastwoods parks. Splash pads – finally, a new ubiquitous word we can all live with. ■

Make waves on Twitter: **www.twitter.com/CityHallHustle**.

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FOR MORE DETAILS AND EVENTS, SEE **COMMUNITY LISTINGS, P.48.**

HEY, CANDIDATES! If you'd like your campaign events listed, send details to **calendar@austinchronicle.com**.

FRIDAY 08

PEOPLE UNITED hosts members of the **Workers Defense Project** to address immigration, labor, and workplace safety. *1pm. KOOP Radio 91.7FM.*

SATURDAY 09

KELLY FERO MEMORIAL SERVICE honors the life of longtime consultant and Austinite Kelly Fero. The public is welcome to attend, though seating is limited. (For more, see "Fero Helped Make, Break Political Careers," p.16.) *11am. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover.*

MARC KATZ CAMPAIGN KICKOFF Meet and greet one of the lieutenant governor candidates before a short talk on same-sex rights, job creation, and more. Bring your questions for the Q&A. *8pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth.* **www.marckatzforltgov.com**.

MONTHLY BIRD COUNT Help keep tabs on Hornsby Bend's bird population. *7am & 4pm. Hornsby Bend Bird Observatory, 2210 FM 973 S., 300-2473. Free.* **www.travisaudubon.org/fieldtrips.html**.

RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE: LAST DAY Those of you who are not Pay-as-You-Throw customers can still recycle your Christmas trees. Just be sure to drop them off today! *10am-4pm. Zilker Park, 2100 Barton Springs Rd. (follow the signs to the polo fields).* Your tree will be ground into mulch to be given away for free; see **www.cityofaustin.org/parks/christmastree.htm** for details.



SUNDAY 10

AUSTIN AMERICANS UNITED MEETING The newly recognized Austin chapter of **Americans United for Separation of Church and State** gathers to keep God out of government. *5pm. Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 2001 W. Anderson. Free.* **www.au.org**.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM LBJ Library Director **Mark Updegrove** shares insight into the tradition of the presidency and the future of our local prez library. *11:30am. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free.* **www.austinuu.org**.

PICKIN' PARTY FOR PEACE Instruments for Peace and the Austin Center for Peace and Justice invite the public to gather, enjoy music, brainstorm about spreading peace through Austin and the world, and plan for the **Million Musicians March for Peace**. *2pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473.* **www.instrumentsforpeace.org**.

MONDAY 11

CENTRAL TEXAS DEMOCRATIC FORUM Hear **Hank Gilbert**, one of the Democratic candidates for Texas agriculture commissioner. *11:45am. Austin Bar Assoc., 816 Congress #700, 320-0665. $20 ($15 members).* **www.centraltxdemocraticforum.com**.

TUESDAY 12

COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY SYMPOSIUM Experts tackle the digital divide in this all-day conference addressing the needs of Austin's technologically underserved. David Keyes, the community technology manager for the city of Seattle, delivers the keynote. *9:30am-5pm. Microsoft Building, 9606 N. Mopac, #200. $25.* **www.austinconnects.net**.

SOUTH AUSTIN DEMOCRATS CANDIDATE FORUM An evening of pizza and politics with Travis County officials, with a Q&A with those candidates facing opponents in the elections this spring. *5:30pm-8:30pm. Garner Betts Juvenile Justice Center, 2515 S. Congress.* **sruiz@austin.rr.com**.

POINT AUSTIN CONTINUED FROM P.11

Bipartisan at All Costs

Doggett has additional objections to the substances of the bills, including the notorious attempts to add further restrictions on reproductive rights (Planned Parenthood opposes both bills in their current forms) as well as mechanisms (worse in the Senate bill) to pay for reform by taxing or limiting insurance coverages for large groups of middle-class consumers (the so-called "Cadillac" policyholders). "Taxing Goldman Sachs is one thing," Doggett said, "but it doesn't make sense to add to the burdens of ordinary folks who might now have good plans … especially if you're being mandated to pay for an inferior product that you can't afford." He says progressive Democrats must insist on better affordability for the whole package.

Beyond these substantive disputes to be hashed out in the coming weeks, the congressman is greatly disappointed that the Democratic leadership, especially in the Senate, decided that it must have a filibuster-proof 60-vote majority to move the bill. He points out that both the Reagan and Bush tax cuts were pushed through a GOP-controlled Senate by simple majority votes – via the process known as "reconciliation" – and that in failing to use those tools, the Senate leadership made the legislation subject to "the tyranny of the least committed Senator." Hence the last-minute, demeaning negotiations with Connecticut Sen. Joe Lieberman, Nebraska Sen. Ben Nelson, and others.

"It did not have to be that way," Doggett said. "When we passed the budget last spring, we provided for reconciliation. … But there was such an incredible desire to get a bipartisan bill, even if it meant a weak bill. Instead we have no bipartisanship – given the unyielding opposition of the Republicans – and we have a weaker bill than we should have had."

Keeping On

Doggett had similar if milder criticisms of President Barack Obama – "there have been times when there's been more interest in bipartisanship than best policy" – and says that the Democrats must begin to acknowledge the actual political situation instead of wishing for a better one. "I do think a considerable time was wasted trying to bring on board people who were never going to come on board," he said. "It's clear the Republican strategy is to do everything it takes to block action, and then to blame us for inaction."

Not too long ago, roughly 20 years – the sharp division is marked by the House GOP leadership under Newt Gingrich and Tom DeLay – despite major differences between the two parties, it was still possible to find some consensus and compromise on practical national problems like health care. In the increasingly poisoned and polarized political atmosphere, that no longer seems doable. Doggett said that in terms of those officials working for "a common purpose and a reasonable approach … the only debate that's happening is within the Democratic caucus." He noted the steady flow of "hate e-mail" he now receives on these issues, along with another trend: "There's a smaller stream of incoming comments – 'I'm ready to drop out,' 'only a third party can solve this,' 'nothing can be done.' I understand that impulse," he said, "but yielding that ground is the wrong response. … We need those very people who are talking about dropping out to increase their engagement, rather than to stop engaging."

As he works to decide what to argue and how to vote on the final legislation, Doggett reached out to those who still want real reform, for solidarity and continuing activism. "All I know to do is to keep engaging and to try to learn from the strategic errors that others have made, and try to vocally demand a different strategy," he said. "I am trying to be candid and realistic – but also to do something, in Jesse Jackson fashion, to keep hope alive." ■

"We have no bipartisanship – given the unyielding opposition of the Republicans – and we have a weaker bill than we should have had."
– Lloyd Doggett

WEDNESDAY 13

NUECES BICYCLE BOULEVARD OPEN HOUSE Learn about the bikeway and share your two cents at this public discussion and design charrette. *6-8pm. Pease Elementary, 1106 Rio Grande.* **www.cityofaustin.org/publicworks/bicycle-public-input.htm.**

THURSDAY 14

ANARCHISM IN AMERICA A documentary screening open to anyone interested in the history of anarchism in the U.S. *7:30pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free.* **www.monkeywrenchbooks.org.**

HILL COUNTRY RIDE FOR AIDS KICKOFF Get pumped for the April 24 ride with an evening of free food, free booze, the Elastic Fantastics, and live music by the Psychic Cowboys. *7pm. La Zona Rosa, 612 W. Fourth. Free.* **www.hillcountryride.org.**

ONGOING

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN MEETING IN A BOX The city of Austin wants to know what you love and hate about our town, and it's created a kit with all the tools you need to host a get-together to collect the input of your neighbors and friends, too. Download from **www.imagineaustin.net**, or contact Kathleen Fox (974-7877, **kathleen.fox@ci.austin.tx.us**) to collect one at *One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Rd. #500.* Or just fill out the survey at **www.imagineaustin.net/survey.htm**. *Deadline: Jan. 29.*

BARTON SPRINGS INTERPRETIVE PLAN SURVEY Parks and Recreation needs input on Barton Springs Pool: **www.surveymonkey.com/s/ksgyrbw.**

AFFORDABLE HOUSING SURVEY The city of Austin's Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office wants your input on how to prioritize funds made available through its Housing Financing Programs. See **www.cityofaustin.org/housing.**

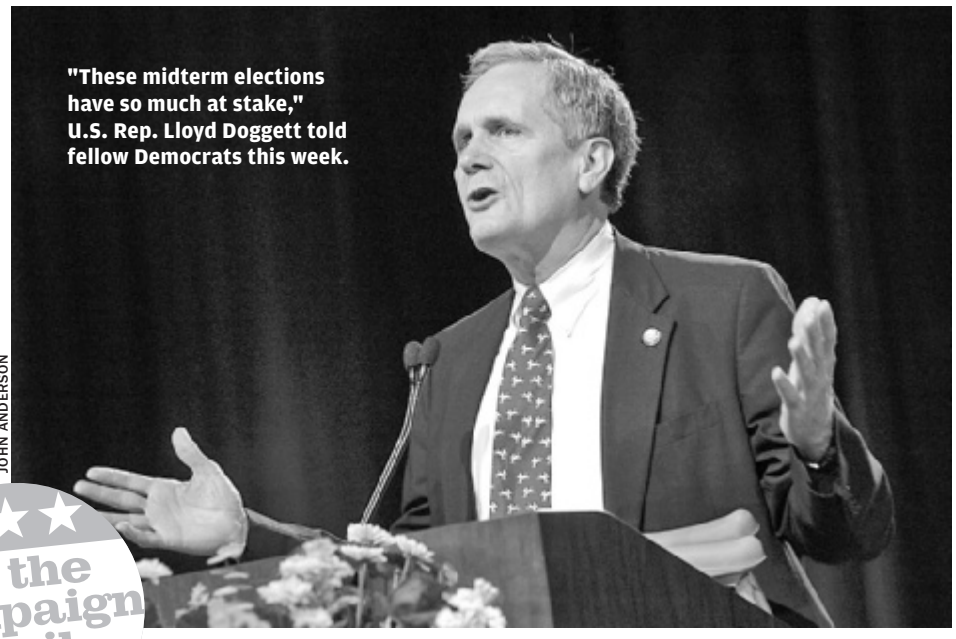
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AND THEY'RE OFF!
FILINGS CLOSE; RACES BEGIN


JOHN ANDERSON

"These midterm elections have so much at stake," U.S. Rep. Lloyd Doggett told fellow Democrats this week.

6pm Monday marked the first major landmark of the 2010 elections: Filing closed for the March 2 primaries. As Texas Democrats gathered that evening at the Four Seasons for the inaugural Johnson-Bentsen-Richards Dinner, it became clear that there were more than expected primary contests and general election challengers.

A pall overshadowed the event – the fast-spreading news of the unexpected death of longtime Democratic strategist **Kelly Fero**, a key player in **John Sharp**'s U.S. Senate bid and Austin Rep. **Donna Howard**'s re-election campaign (see below). Yet the real purpose of the evening was rabble-rousing, endorsement-seeking, and fundraising. It also served as an audible straw poll for how local activists and fundraisers feel about their candidates. At the end of the event, all the hopefuls in attendance were introduced: There was thunderous applause for gubernatorial candidate **Bill White** and agriculture commissioner hopeful **Hank Gilbert**, but much less for their respective rivals, hair care magnate **Farouk Shami** and **Kinky Friedman**. The applause meter delivered a split decision for two lieutenant governor hopefuls, former Travis County District Attorney **Ronnie Earle** and former Texas AFL-CIO Executive Vice President **Linda Chavez-Thompson**, who had filed that afternoon.

U.S. Rep. **Lloyd Doggett** warned the crowd that while November's ballot will have "far less pizzazz than a presidential election, these midterm elections have so much at stake." More importantly for individual candidates and their preparations, he warned that the GOP is "revved up." How revved up became clear in the completed filing lists. While the Travis County legislative delegation is unchallenged in the primaries, there will be GOP opposition for four House seats, with two contested GOP primaries.

What had broadly been expected to be a brutal one-on-one fight in Travis County's House District 47 Republican race became a triangle when corporate attorney **Holly White Turner** and developer **Paul Workman** were joined by tax attorney **David Sewell** (the winner will take on Dem incumbent Valinda Bolton). That wasn't the only late maneuvering. The expected GOP primary battle for the right to challenge Bolton's neighbor, HD 48 Rep. **Donna Howard**, fell through when documentarian **Glenn Bass** filed for a justice of the peace race, leaving ex-Denver Bronco and GOPAC-TX executive board member **Dan Neil** with a clear run for the nomination. The big shock was reserved for Rep. **Mark Strama**, D-Austin: The chair of the House Technology, Economic Development & Workforce Committee spent much of the evening of the dinner waiting to see whether he had drawn a Republican challenger. Ultimately, he drew two last-minute filers, firefighter **Ryan Lambert** and Precinct 378 Chair **Patrick McGuinness**. Strama commented: "I think that's a sign of a lack of organization. The fact that it happened at the last minute and they couldn't agree on a single candidate suggests that they threw the net wide."

The Republicans' effort pales next to the Travis County Libertarian Party, which managed a candidate in every single local House race. For instance, while no Republican filed against Rep. **Elliott Naishtat**, the incumbent has drawn a pair of Libertarian challengers, **Nathan Kleffman** and **Norman Horn**. That's one of three contested Libertarian races in the county, but don't expect to see them on the March 2 ballot: They'll be sorting out their nominations at their county convention on March 13.

The Dems face their own downballot primary season, especially in four hotly contested judicial races that, for lack of Republican challengers, will effectively be settled March 2. Former Travis County prosecutor **Mindy Montford** made official her jump into the already crowded race for the 299th District Court. Similarly, **Amy Clark Meachum** confirmed the rumor that she was switching from the 353rd to the 201st to take on Appeals Court Justice **Jan Patterson**. That leaves **Tim Sulak** as the sole Democrat to take on **Jeff Rose**, Gov. Rick Perry's appointee to the 353rd after popular Democratic Judge **Scott Ozmun** died last year. The drama, of course, is that Patterson is opening up her position on the 3rd Court of Appeals. Now that seat gets its own GOP primary, with former Perry appointee to the 427th District Court **Melissa Goodwin** and trial attorney **Scott Field** battling to face Democrat **Kurt Kuhn** come November.

The most crowded local races are for the **State Board of Education**, with five Democrats and five Republicans jostling to fill the two seats that cover Travis County. On that list is failed 2009 Austin mayoral candidate **Josiah Ingalls**, but he's not the only former mayoral hopeful on the ballot. While **Carole Keeton Strayhorn**'s threatened run as a Democrat for comptroller never materialized, businessman **David Buttross** will be hoping for better than his 3.8% mayoral turnout in his county commissioner challenge as a Republican to incumbent Democrat **Sarah Eckhardt**.

With the crucial redistricting fight scheduled for the next legislative session, much attention will focus on the unexpectedly high number of state Capitol contests. Even Sen. **Kirk Watson**, D-Austin, faces a surprise general election challenge, with attorney and sometime-Libertarian **Mary Lou Serafine** filing as a Republican ("My aim is to stop Texas from becoming California," she announced in her press release). But with Republicans already facing a bruising gubernatorial primary among Gov. **Rick Perry**, Sen. **Kay Bailey Hutchison**, and secessionist teabagger **Debra Medina**, plus around 30 House primaries statewide – more than a dozen involving GOP incumbents – it will be interesting to see the party's shape come March 3.

The real test is whether the late-filing Republicans are serious, policy-driven candidates or driven simply by antipathy toward the administrations in Austin and Washington or just hoping to distract incumbents from campaigning in the energized statewide races (not that Democrats are without their own potential sacrificial lambs: **Ted Ankrum** is back for another shot at Republican U.S. Rep. **Michael McCaul**, even after polling only 40% in his 2006 challenge). Strama warned that Democrats should be wary that the increased number of Republicans on the ballot could signify a midterm backlash similar to the Gingrich revolution. He noted, "In 1994, a bunch of people won and defeated incumbents in what were considered Democratic safe seats just because they had their name on the ballot." But he also warned Republicans not to get too confident. If the economy improves and health care reform is successful, he noted, "This could be a tsunami year in either direction." – *Richard Whittaker*

The Candidates

STATEWIDE

Governor
D: Bill White, Farouk Shami, Star Locke, Felix Alvarado, Alma Ludivina Aguado, Bill Dear, Clement Glenn
R: Rick Perry, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Debra Medina*
L: Jeff Daiell, Steve Nichols, M.J. (Smitty) Smith, Edward Tidwell, Katherine Youngblood Glass

Lieutenant Governor
D: Ronnie Earle, Marc Katz, Linda Chavez-Thompson
R: David Dewhurst*
L: Scott Jameson, Todd Minor

Agriculture Commissioner
D: Hank Gilbert, Kinky Friedman
R: Todd Staples*

Land Commissioner
D: Hector Uribe, Bill Burton
R: Jerry Patterson*

CONGRESSIONAL

Congressional District 10
D: Ted Ankrum
R: Michael McCaul, Joe Petronis, Rick Martin*
L: Jeremiah "J.P." Perkins

CD 21
D: Lainey Melnick
R: Lamar Smith, Steven Schoppe*
L: James Arthur Strohm

CD 25
D: Lloyd Doggett*
R: Donna Campbell, George Morovich
L: Cory W. Bruner, Jim Stutsman

TEXAS LEGISLATURE

Senate District 14
D: Kirk Watson*
R: Mary Lou Serafine
L: Kent Phillips, Ron Bennett, Sid Atkinson Jr.

SD 25
R: Jeff Wentworth*
L: Arthur Maxwell Thomas IV

House District 46
D: Dawnna Dukes*
L: George E. Emery

HD 47
D: Valinda Bolton*
R: Holly White Turner, Paul Workman, David Sewell
L: Joe Edgar, Kris Bailey

HD 48
D: Donna Howard*
R: Dan Neil
L: Ben Easton

HD 49
D: Elliott Naishtat*
L: Nathan Kleffman, Norman Horn

HD 50
D: Mark Strama*
R: Ryan Lambert, Patrick McGuinness
L: Emily Cowan

HD 51
D: Eddie Rodriguez*
R: Marilyn Dolores Jackson
L: Arthur DiBianca

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

District 5
D: Robert Bohmfalk, Rebecca Bell-Metereau, Josiah Ingalls, Daniel Boone
R: Ken Mercer, Tim Tuggey*

District 10
D: Judy Jennings
R: Rebecca Osborne, Brian Russell, Marsha Farney

TRAVIS COUNTY

County Judge
D: Sam Biscoe*
R: Mike McNamara

Commissioner, Precinct 2
D: Sarah Eckhardt*
R: David Buttross
L: Matthew Finkel

Commissioner, Precinct 4
D: Margaret Gomez, Raul Alvarez, David Dreesen*

JUDICIAL RACES (CONTESTED)

201st District Court
D: Jan Patterson, Amy Clark Meachum

299th District Court
D: Leonard Martinez, Mindy Montford, Eve Schatelowitz Alcantar, Karen Sage

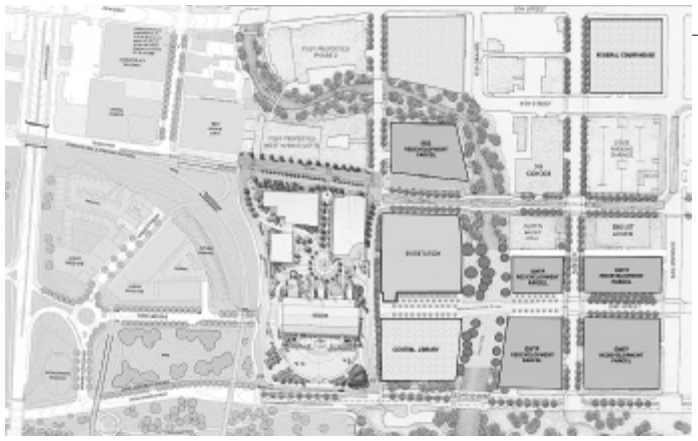
331st District Court
D: David Crain, Keith Lauerman

County Court at Law 3
D: John Lipscombe, Olga Seelig

(*incumbent)

Contested primaries are in italics.

Central Library Design Aims for Adaptability



Seaholm District Update 2008

"Libraries have become far more flexible in how they serve the community," architect **David Lake** noted recently. "If you want a sustainable 100-year building, you want one that can adapt easily over time – with components, modular thinking, highly adaptable spaces. For long life, you want a loose fit – like a good pair of blue jeans."

Lake, who leads the design of Austin's new central library for **Lake|Flato**, said the design team is currently reconciling wish lists with budgetary realities. Collaborating architectural firm **Shepley Bulfinch** is leading the programming phase; the work reflects ideas and input gathered from Austinites and library staff at a series of meetings in November. (To see the input gathered so far, visit **austinchronicle.com/s/?e=935147**; further comments can be posted at **www.cityofaustin.org/library**.) A program for the library is headed toward City Council in February; it will define the activities, functions, operations, and users and provide corresponding spaces and features. Design work will begin once the final program is approved, perhaps in March.

The design team is also considering how the library will interact with the site and surrounding urban fabric. "We are keen on making this library a gateway to Downtown, Lady Bird Lake, Shoal Creek, and the trail system," said Lake. The building will be sited right on the shore of Shoal Creek, across Cesar Chavez from the lake. "Libraries are becoming more public-spirited buildings – a city living room," he said. "For Austin, it makes perfect sense to engage the creek and the river. Wouldn't it be great if people could sit out on the library's porch?"

Because the architects' scope of work, project budget, and site definition hadn't initially allowed for fully realizing the site's full potential, the mayor's office recently invited key city executive-team members to meet together with Lake; department heads and other senior staff discussed how to best collaborate on site issues.

Lake said the design team held a special sustainability design charrette to look at issues like "daylight, energy performance, and having the least possible impact on the environment." They're also considering linkages with the new library: the extension of Second Street, the Lance Armstrong Bikeway and Cesar Chavez, and the complex, large-scale Seaholm and Project Green sites that bookend the site. "Austin is lucky to have the developers they have, who care about the community," said Lake. – *Katherine Gregor*

DEA: 1, Hemp Farmers: 0

reefer MADNESS

More than a year after two farmers appeared before the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to argue for their right to grow industrial hemp without the intrusion of federal narcos, the court ruled Dec. 22 in favor of the **Drug Enforcement Administration** and, by default, the ban on U.S. hemp farming.

According to the court's decision, industrial hemp, the non-narcotic cousin of marijuana, is nothing more than dope and thus is regulated by the federal **Controlled Substances Act**. It matters not that hemp is grown for its seed, oil, and fiber and contains less than 1% tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, the main psychoactive substance in the drug marijuana. "Under the CSA, marijuana is defined to include *all* Cannabis sativa L. plants, regardless of THC concentration," the court wrote. "The CSA likewise makes no distinction between cannabis grown for drug use and that grown for industrial use."

The CSA does exempt oil, fiber, and nonactive seeds from regulation, but because all growing plants contain some level of THC, the court's reasoning is that the stated exceptions to regulation are, essentially, meaningless for farming purposes.

North Dakota farmers have been struggling with the DEA since the state passed a law in 1999 to reintroduce hemp as a rotational crop. The law originally required state-licensed farmers to receive DEA approval, but after the agency made it clear it would make the farmers comply with regulations for drug manufacturing and would then also drag its feet in reviewing and deciding on those applications, the state repealed that provision of the law. **Wayne Hauge**, a farmer from the northwestern part of the state, and **David Monson**, a Republican state representative from the northeastern section, were the first licensed in the state to grow hemp, but they have yet to do so because they face federal drug prosecution if they go forward without DEA approval. The DEA has not acted on their applications for permission to grow the plant.

Now with the 8th Circuit agreeing that the DEA has the power to regulate the cultivation of hemp, Hauge, Monson, and the state of North Dakota have few options. They could appeal to the Supremes, as unlikely as that sounds, or they could go to Congress. The latter appears a more likely route, though how quickly that strategy would result in any change is an open question: Texas Liberpublican **Ron Paul** has been trying to reauthorize hemp farming for years but still hasn't gotten his bill a committee hearing. And last year the North Dakota delegation said it wasn't interested in pushing for hemp farming rights, even though the issue is a big one for constituents (there's representative government at work, thank you very little).

But perhaps one of these days, Congress will realize that the environmentally friendly crop – used for everything from automotive parts, fuels, paints, and lubricants to paper, food, and body care products – would actually help green up agriculture and manufacturing.



LEAH LOVISE

Indeed, the U.S. is the only industrialized nation without an established hemp crop. That means, in part, that although the U.S. market for hemp products continues to grow by double digits each year, the hemp that it takes to feed that market must be imported, often from as far away as China or from as close to home as Canada – indeed, there are Canadian farmers cultivating the crop less than 30 miles from Monson's family farm. "I guess the next step is we'll have to take it to Congress," Hauge told the Associated Press. Of course, the "fastest and easiest way to handle this," he added, "would be for the president to order the Department of Justice to stand down on all actions against industrial hemp." – *Jordan Smith*

For more "Reefer Madness," see the archive: **austinchronicle.com/reefermadness**.

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Does the Open Meetings Act Go Too Far?

The **Texas Open Meetings Act** was designed to blow the doors open on backroom dealing in smoke-filled rooms. Yet four cities, including Pflugerville, are challenging sections of the law. On Dec. 14, 2009, they filed suit in the Federal Western District Court in Pecos against the state and Attorney General **Greg Abbott**. The law, they argued, has been perverted by a long series of legal opinions and legislative tweaks, and it now restricts free speech by making officeholders afraid to talk to each other outside of announced meetings. Attorney **Dick DeGuerin**, representing the cities, said this was not a challenge to the original intention of the bill, but, he added, "What we do want is for elected representatives to be able to speak out in public on what their positions are."

Under the act, any quorate meeting of any governmental body at which that body's business is discussed must be publicly announced at least 72 hours in advance with a full agenda. But under current interpretation, a meeting can include an exchange of e-mails or a telephone call or even the odd concept of a rolling or walking quorum, where a series of disconnected conversations can equate to a quorum. **Floyd Akers**, city attorney for Pflugerville, argued that the law disproportionately affects smaller entities, such as city councils in small towns, where a quorum may only require two or three people. For example, three members of the five-member Pflugerville City Council attend the same church. Akers said: "If they go to the 11 o'clock service, they've just committed a criminal violation that they can be prosecuted for. And god forbid that they be asked to speak, because that's a whole other violation."

Abbott's office, which has yet to formally respond to the suit, has called it an attempt to subvert open government and added that "the First Amendment is furthered, not frustrated, by open meeting laws." Yet the **Texas Municipal League**, which supports the cities in their case, has argued that the law has a chilling effect and that, while rare, indictments do happen: Pflugerville Council Member **Victor Gonzales** was prosecuted for answering a question about council business at a fundraiser, and this latest suit is a refiling of an earlier claim by Alpine Council Members **Avinash Rangra** and **Katie Elms-Lawrence**, who were indicted for an exchange of e-mails. While all those indictments were dismissed, the legal challenge failed because the council members were term-limited out of office and no longer had standing. However, Akers said he hoped that the Pecos court will act on the U.S. 5th Circuit's finding that the "criminal provisions of [the act] are content-based regulations of speech." – *Richard Whittaker*

Fero Helped Make, Break Political Careers

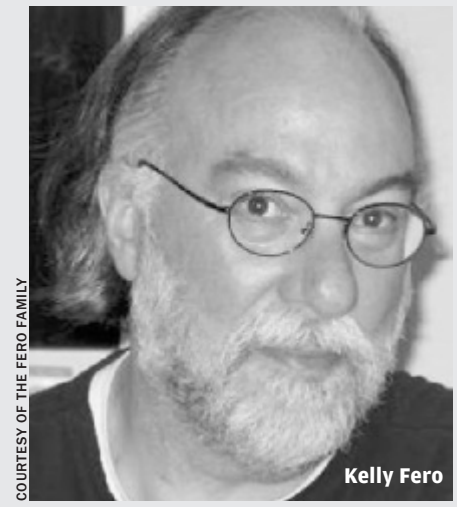
It was uncharacteristic of **Kelly Fero** not to return phone calls in a timely manner, so when Austin Rep. **Donna Howard** didn't hear back from him when she phoned him Monday, Jan. 4 – the filing deadline for political office seekers – she figured the popular Democratic consultant was busy fielding calls from reporters and political wonks seeking his assessment of the lineup for the March 2 primaries. But at a Democratic function that evening, the news of Fero's unexpected death, at 57, spread quickly among the dinner guests. Howard was among those grief-stricken by the sudden passing of her friend and adviser.

A memorial service for Fero is set for 11am Saturday at the First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover. A cause of death was not immediately available. Fero reportedly hadn't felt well on Monday, and his wife had left work early that day to check on him at home, where she discovered his body.

A longtime political operative and former journalist, Fero was a favorite go-to pundit for reporters on deadline. He was an impeccable source – and never pretended to be agnostic about whatever he was feeding you. Best of all, he was always quick with a quotable quip. It's hard to tell who will miss him the most – reporters or the countless number of officeholders and candidates who depended on him daily for strategic advice and press statements.

In Howard's case, the two touched base frequently, especially during campaign season. "He had been with me from the beginning," Howard said, referring to her first legislative campaign in 2005, for the House District 48 seat she currently occupies and hopes to retain in this year's general election. "He was a very important part of my campaign and my career. … I counted on him greatly." Howard credited Fero for helping her find her "voice" on the campaign trail in her first House race, running in a largely Republican district against the well-financed GOP candidate Ben Bentzin.

Fero maintained a deep list of paying and pro bono clients – from U.S. Senate candidate and former Comptroller **John Sharp** to former Attorney General **Jim Mattox** to political candidates in Mexico and Puerto Rico. Many of his clients went on to forge friendships with Fero and his wife, Mary, a popular Travis County employee who helps oversee county elections.



COURTESY OF THE FERO FAMILY

Kelly Fero

Often the bane of political opponents, Fero would occasionally find himself in hot water, yet he was incredibly resilient. In 2008, District Attorney Rosemary Lehmberg dismissed him from her campaign after some of his anonymous blog postings prompted an ethics complaint (later dismissed) from political foe Terry Keel. – *Amy Smith*

City Launches Carbon Calculator, Hosts Climate Expo

The city's **Austin Climate Protection Program** is at last reaching out to involve the broader community in reducing the region's contribution to global warming. This week, it launched its long-awaited local **carbon footprint calculator** – offering a more accurate measurement of an individual's greenhouse-gas emissions from daily activities. The ACPP version improves on national and generic calculators by allowing city of Austin utility customers to directly upload their data (enter a billing account number) for electricity, water, wastewater, and solid waste. It also uses regional, not national, emissions factors. Once a user calculates his or her footprint, the website offers tips on how to lower it. (As of yet, the site provides no certified local carbon offsets available for purchase; a city green fund for "local carbon-reducing projects" is still in development.) You can try out the calculator – both the one-minute and the comprehensive versions – at **www.coolaustin.org**.

□

Also, **Austin Energy** is hosting the **2010 Austin Climate Protection Conference & Expo**. The free event takes place Friday and Saturday, Jan. 15-16, at the Palmer Events Center. The Friday program offers continuing education for professionals; Saturday speakers will address topics of general interest for all Central Texans, including the carbon footprint calculator, Energy Rebates Made Easy, and hopefully lively panel discussions on new technologies, transportation, water conservation for greenhouse-gas reductions, and green building. A variety of green exhibitors will be at the expo; the highlight is an **AltCar Expo** ride and drive area, where folks can try driving natural gas, hybrid, plug-in, propane, and other alternative vehicles. To learn more, visit **www.austinclimateexpo.com**.

□

Finally, the ACPP is bringing back the city's annual **environmental awards**. Do you know of an individual, business, community organization/nonprofit, school, educational program, governmental agency, or city of Austin department that deserves recognition? The awards will honor outstanding contributions toward the protection, conservation, and improvement of Austin's natural resources. Nominations are being accepted through March 1. Winners will be recognized by Austin City Council on Earth Day, April 22. For info on judging criteria, and to submit a nomination, visit **www.coolaustin.org**. – *Katherine Gregor*

Congressional Scorecard Making the Green Grade

Since the landmark elections in 2006, the U.S. Congress has gotten markedly greener, and even the notoriously anti-environment Texas delegation has improved a bit. That's according to the 2009 **Congressional Scorecard** by **Environment America** and its local affiliate, **Environment Texas**.

As in previous years, EA staked out seven Senate and 15 House votes that it considered of prime importance to the environment in 2009 and scored legislators on how often they took EA's side. Those who voted EA's way every time were labeled "Environmental Champions," and those who never did so were called "Natural Disasters." In 2006, the number of champions was a lowly 71 out of the 435 reps and six of 100 senators; after Democrats seized power in both houses in November of that year, the numbers went up. In the House, there were 124 in 2008, and then 144 this year. In the Senate, the numbers rose to 30 last year and 40 this year.

Conversely, the disasters in the House came down over that period, from 114 in '06 to 17 now. However, they actually went up in the Senate, from 22 to 26. Among the disasters: both Texas senators, **John Cornyn** and would-be governor **Kay Bailey Hutchison**. It's the second consecutive year of a 0% score for the duo.

The Texas House delegation improved slightly, rising from 31% in 2008 to 41% in 2009. Democrats **Henry Cuellar** of South Texas and **Eddie Bernice Johnson** of Dallas actually got perfect scores.

Among congressmen representing Austin, Democrat **Lloyd Doggett** (as usual) led the way, with a 93% score. The remainder, all Republicans, just as predictably did poorly in EA's estimation: **Michael McCaul** got 27%, **Lamar Smith** scored 20%, and **John Carter** brought up the rear at 7%. A notable exception on McCaul's score was his vote to make schools more energy-efficient, one of the few enviro issues he has actually actively promoted.

The full scorecard can be downloaded at **www.environmentamerica.org**. – *Lee Nichols*

the hightower report

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

HELPFUL NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

In addition to working up my own list of New Year's resolutions, it occurs to me that some of the people running our country could benefit from my suggestions for their lists. No need for them to thank me – happy to help.

Where better to start than with those proud-and-loud members of Congress who've adamantly opposed real health insurance reform for workaday Americans? I include not only the entire block of Republican lawmakers whose vocabulary consists only of the word "no" but also those pathetic Democrats who've compromised the reform idea into corporate mush. Each of these stalwarts of the status quo should make this resolution: "Since I helped kill reform, I will give up the excellent, government-paid, socialized health coverage that I get so that I am in the same leaky boat as my constituents."

And here's a resolution for the barons of Wall Street, who continue to float on billions of dollars in government bailout money yet are grabbing bonus payments for themselves while pouting that the public is not showing them the love they deserve: "I hereby pledge to go through the 12-step detox program of Greedheads Anonymous to deflate my arrogance, cure my narcissism, and become a human being again."

Let's not forget the Obamacans, either! They came into office on an anti-war, anti-fat-cat, pro-middle-class program, yet have expanded their war, catered to fat cats, and offered the middle class nothing but "a jobless recovery." Here's the resolution we need from Obama: "In year two of my term, I promise to Democrat-up by getting some economic advisers who've actually met a real worker. I'll also download recordings of Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt to my iPod and require everyone in my administration to volunteer at least one loved one to go to war in Afghanistan."

If we can only get those in charge to make these pledges, we'll all have a happier new year!

LET'S CHUCK THE BOTTLE

Bottled pollution.

I know we're a nation of inveterate consumers, but who would buy pollution in a bottle?

Well, millions of Americans do, to the tune of $11 billion a year. That's the size of the bottled-water industry in our country, dominated by such giants as Nestlé and Coca-Cola. "But wait," shriek industry PR flacks. "Our product is pure goodness! What are you talking about?!"

Start with the little-reported fact that bottled water can contain a toxic mix of industrial chemicals never tested for safety. Also, many tests of bottled water are done by the corporations themselves rather than by independent, certified labs, and even when contaminants are found, the marketers do not have to tell consumers or public officials about them. Chances are that your city's tap water, which is inspected several times daily, is at least as pure and often more so than the pricey stuff in bottles.

Speaking of bottles, both the production and disposal of billions of tons of these throwaways is a pollution nightmare. The Environmental Working Group, for example, has revealed an area of the Pacific Ocean that amounts to a massive plastic water bottle dump that is twice the size of Texas! You can't throw water bottles away – because there is no "away."

Then there's the absurdly huge carbon footprint created by hauling bottled water back and forth across our country, not to mention across oceans, bringing water all the way from France or Fiji. If you need a textbook example of energy absurdity, try this: New York water is trucked to California, and California water is trucked to New York.

The good news is us: consumers! Individuals, companies, restaurants, cities, states, and other entities are chucking the bottle, ending their silly addiction to a totally unnecessary source of pollution and waste. To join the effort, go to **www.takebackthetap.org**.

For more information on Jim Hightower's work – and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, The Hightower Lowdown *– visit* **www.jimhightower.com.** *You can hear his radio commentaries on KOOP Radio, 91.7FM, weekdays at 10:58am and 12:58pm.*

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Reinventing Airport Boulevard

Can 'form-based zoning' turn Austin's suburban-style drags into walkable shopping districts?

BY KATHERINE GREGOR



JOHN ANDERSON

A familiar sight along some sections of Airport Boulevard

"This area is like an old house that you look at and you think, 'Why doesn't somebody fix that up?'"
– Katrina Daniel, Highland Neighborhood Association

Drive Airport Boulevard from Lamar to I-35 – trying to see it with a newcomer's eyes – and it's hard to disagree with Council Member Chris Riley's assessment: "We can do better than this." Cruising along the street (there's no way to walk it), you see no pedestrians except at bus stops – virtually no one out strolling to shop, no one walking or cycling to a neighborhood taco joint. Perhaps that's because this corridor was never designed to be a place for people; it was built for cars, and an ode to the auto it remains. The unlovely streetscape is dominated by surface parking and chaotic signage, lots selling used autos and used tires, and generic strip malls – the classic Anywhere, U.S.A.

Punctuating the blandness are several iconic, endearingly affordable Austin businesses such as Mrs. Johnson's Bakery ("Quality donuts since 1948"), Tamale House (the enchilada plate is still $3), I Luv Video, Lammes Candies (established in 1885), and Quality Seafood Market ("An Austin institution since 1938"). But taken as a whole, this stretch of Airport is a drag – literally and metaphorically.

Riley believes it can be something more. He's been talking with people in the surrounding neighborhoods who would love to see a few nice infill projects supporting those beloved places and improving their main thoroughfare – perhaps a grocery store, another hip local coffeehouse to join Kick Butt Coffee (near Koenig), or bakeries, bookstores, cafes – gathering places with additional sidewalk access to replace the ghost buildings and empty parking lots. They'd like a street that's appealing to walk and bike along and that's safe for people to cross on foot. They'd like a central shopping district as attractive and sustainable as those promoted for Downtown – walkable, transit-oriented, dense yet human-scaled – with its own unique neighborhood charm.

As it is, many businesses on Airport are barely getting by or have closed – including two of the four anchor stores at Highland Mall. Ray McGuire, who has owned McGuire's Clocks at 4915 Airport since 1986 (it was started by his late father, Archie McGuire, in 1964), hadn't heard of Riley's initiative when I stopped by in late December, but he liked the sound of it: "I would absolutely welcome anything that's positive!" McGuire said urban blight in the area has affected his business, which draws customers and specialty repairs from all over Central Texas. "I am in the red now; I've been trying to close it up, but my wife won't let me," he sighed. "I'm just tired of bleeding money." He described problems over the years with a crack house, a shooting, needles on the sidewalk, transients from a nearby day-labor site, and car break-ins behind his building. In the past year or so, his front door has been broken into four times. From it, he pointed out a "bum camp" in the ditch that runs between Airport and Capital Metro's train tracks, where he sees people cooking and urinating in plain view.

"I'd welcome it if they'd come in and buy up a whole block and build something larger and nicer," said McGuire. He believes higher-quality neighboring businesses could boost his own walk-in traffic: "I'd kill for a Starbucks somewhere around here! Or a big new restaurant."

Character by Code

To effect a desirable transformation, Riley proposes to use a tool – an alternative approach to zoning – known as "form-based code." Sometimes called "place-making" code or "SmartCode," the zoning regulations specify the *form* for new development – how buildings, streetscapes, and the public realm should be scaled and should look and feel – rather than the *uses* allowed on the site. (See "What Is Form-Based Code?," p.19.) In fact, Riley hopes form-based code can be piloted on Airport, then adopted to transform similarly blighted corridors around town. It's also likely to be discussed as a solution for Austin as a whole during the city's ongoing comprehensive-planning process.

As a first step, Riley and co-sponsors Mike Martinez and Lee Leffingwell introduced a resolution Dec. 10, 2009, directing the city manager and staff "to identify funding opportunities and develop a proposed process for a form-based code planning initiative along a segment of Airport Boulevard, generally located within the area between North Lamar Boulevard and IH-35, that will serve as a pilot project for corridor redevelopment."

Why use form-based code planning? The big advantage it offers over Austin's current use-based code is far greater certainty about new developments' feel, look, and scale. An antidote to all that we've done wrong since World War II, form-based code is being adopted in Denver; Miami; Portland, Ore.; San Antonio; and now in federal and state transportation planning policies and manuals to promote next-generation projects – especially compact, walkable, transit-oriented development. Neighborhood organizations like it because mandatory form-based code establishes by law that new projects must fit sensitively into the context of existing neighborhoods and residents' visions for the future. Developers and property owners like it because it creates predictability and a smoother application and project review process. (Other cities report that the main opposition to form-based code initiatives has come, sometimes stealthily, from real estate attorneys when they realize that its predictability will drastically reduce the demand for their services in brokering variance petitions and in neighborhood/developer fights.)

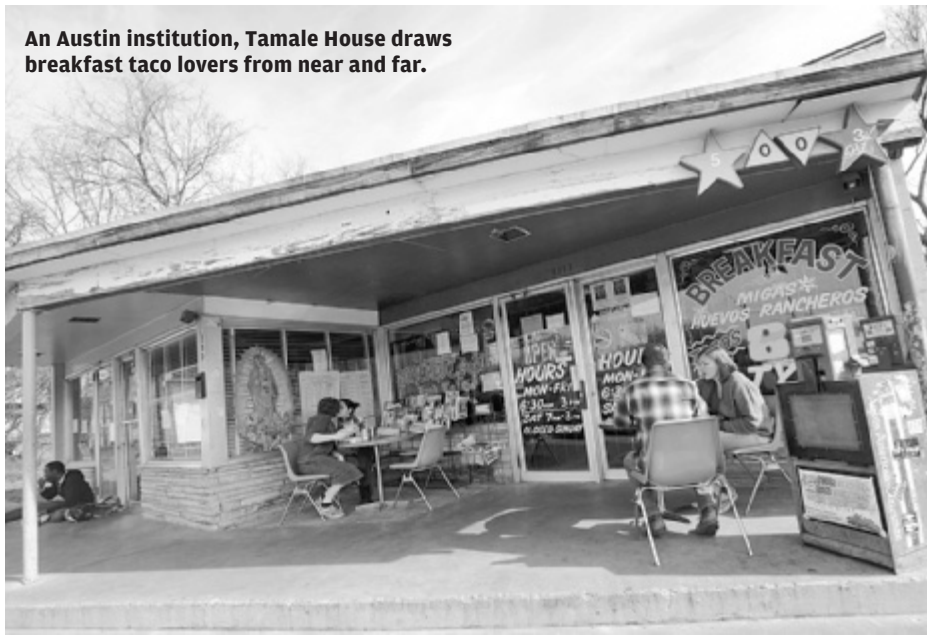
No code is perfect, of course. Dean Almy, an associate professor of architecture and urban design at the University of Texas who serves on the city's Waterfront Planning Advisory Board, has been studying form-based codes and their development outcomes, both here and abroad. "Form-based codes are restrictive in many ways," he points out. "They can guarantee a particular outcome, but perhaps at the expense of something extraordinary arising. They are used to overcome worst-case scenarios, but they can lead to lowest-common-denominator design solutions. Many European cities are using ones that are more flexible; the





GATEWAY PLANNING GROUP, INC.

This is Duncanville, Texas – before and after. The "after" is simply a rendering of the development that would happen under the code. It is a result of the neighborhood asking how a local movie theatre would be designed and look under the form-based code on the corridor.



An Austin institution, Tamale House draws breakfast taco lovers from near and far.

JOHN ANDERSON

"Nobody's going to get off that train to come to the Tamale House. They'll just whiz on past, like the traffic does."
– Robert Vasquez, Tamale House

form-based codes currently in use in the U.S. are closely modeled on the agenda of CNU [Congress for the New Urbanism]. We haven't found that balance between prescription and variation yet in this country." Still, he said, moving to a form-based code "could be a timely move for Austin."

At its best, form-based code provides a fine-grained regulating plan for realizing a community's own preferred vision, area by area, block by block. Properly administered, it's not just a set of design guidelines or a big-government urban renewal push or friendly to developers who do massive cookie-cutter projects.

Out of the Suburbs

Like other urban roadways developed after World War II, Airport Boulevard is a relic of the suburbanizing era, when America abandoned traditional town-planning principles proven over hundreds of years and began building for the automobile. That resulted, as the Charter of the New Urbanism puts it, in "the spread of placeless sprawl." Originally built as State Highway 29, the suburban road had its name changed by a City Council resolution in 1944 to Airport Boulevard. It formed the western boundary of Robert Mueller Municipal Airport, which opened in 1936 and closed in 1999. On the Eastside, between I-35 and Highway 183, Airport Boulevard has been Texas State Highway Loop 111 since 1960. (In 2007, the portion between I-35 and MLK, bordering the new Mueller neighborhood, was returned to the city. According to city staffer George Zapalac, the portion north of I-35 has been city-maintained for many years.) When it opened in 1971, Highland Mall on Airport was celebrated as Austin's first enclosed suburban shopping mall.

Today, Airport is a big-city boulevard stuck in its suburban past, like some awkward relation still sporting 1971 sideburns. It's now near the demographic heart of a region with more than 1 million people – a main reason that Riley sees it as ripe for New Urban rebirth. To promote sustainable growth and lower the region's carbon footprint, City Council policy now favors central density over sprawl. City policy designates "main transit corridors," the best places to add that density, to preserve the interior of established neighborhoods. So while most of the city's urban planning efforts focus on Downtown, Riley is tackling the less glamorous challenge of reimagining and improving corridors like Airport. (Assisting him is aide Marisa Ballas, an architect and planner who came to Riley's office from Black + Vernooy, where she edited *Emergent Urbanism: Evolution in Urban Form, Texas*, a book on Central Texas published for the CNU annual conference in Austin in 2008.) In addition to area stakeholders, Riley's office is involving the local chapters of professional groups such as the American Institute for Architects and the CNU. To gather reactions, in October Riley invited former Austinite Scott Polikov – president of Gateway Planning Group, which works nationally crafting and implementing form-based code projects – to present the concepts to a representative group of homeowners, residents, property owners, and business owners, plus city staff. He and Riley have talked separately with other council members, the city manager, and senior city staff as well. The Central Texas Chapter of CNU has a policy group actively promoting the initiative's success; in November it helped host a public reprise of the presentation by Polikov, who sits on CNU's national board.

Among those present for Polikov's first presentation was Carol Huntsberger, owner of Quality Seafood Market. (Like the other locally owned businesses mentioned, the seafood store and restaurant repeatedly wins *Chronicle* "Best of Austin" awards.) Huntsberger had

CONTINUED ON P.20

What Is Form-Based Code?

The following definition of "form-based code" is slightly edited from the Form-Based Codes Institute. – *K.G.*

Form-based codes foster predictable built results and a high-quality public realm by using physical form (rather than separation of uses) as the organizing principle. Not to be confused with design guidelines or general statements of policy, form-based codes are not merely advisory; they are adopted into city or county law as regulations. Form-based codes can be mandatory or optional/parallel.

Form-based codes address the relationship between building facades and the public realm, the form and mass of buildings in relation to one another, and the scale and types of streets and blocks. The regulations and standards in form-based codes, presented in both diagrams and words, are keyed to a regulating plan (see right) that designates the appropriate form and scale (and therefore, character) of development. This is in contrast to conventional zoning's focus on the micromanagement and segregation of land uses, and the control of development intensity through abstract and uncoordinated parameters such as floor-to-area ratio, dwellings per acre, setbacks, parking ratios, and traffic impact.

Form-based codes commonly include the following elements:

Regulating plan: A plan or map of the regulated area, designating the locations where different building form standards apply. The plan is based on clear community intentions.

Public space standards: These define desired elements within the public realm – sidewalks, travel lanes, on-street parking, street trees, street furniture, etc.

Building form standards: These control the configuration, features, and functions of buildings. This in turn helps to define and shape the public realm.

Administration process: A clearly defined process for development applications and project reviews.

Other standards can also be included: architectural, landscaping, signage, and environmental.

For examples, including the Downtown Duncanville plan referenced on the facing page, see **www.gatewayplanning.com/codes.php**.

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An empty Highland Mall parking lot



The Highland Mall transit stop (to be)

PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

When it opened in 1971, Highland Mall on Airport was celebrated as Austin's first enclosed suburban shopping mall.

never heard of form-based code, but she remembers finding the images shown instantly appealing; they reminded her of walkable places she'd enjoyed in other cities.

"I'm very excited about the prospect of it," said Huntsberger. "They're trying to add density on the corridor, and we get to help determine what we want that to look like." As a property owner, she said she isn't concerned that improvements might increase her property taxes: "That's not always a bad thing; it means the neighborhood has improved, so the money goes for something." She especially liked the way diverse stakeholders were brought together for the presentation, "so we were all hearing the same thing at the same time."

"I think it's a great investment for Austin," said Huntsberger, who liked the idea that a form-based code corridor initiative piloted on Airport could help other parts of the city too. "It connects people; that's what's exciting. I think it's going to be awesome!"

Airport's Advantages

Why pick Airport for the pilot? Austin has plenty of other aging central corridors to revitalize – Cameron Road, Burnet Road, and South Lamar come to mind. Riley cited a number of factors that make Airport ideal for form-based planning and redevelopment. The big five: 1) neighborhood and local business support; 2) Capital Metro's Red Line, which runs parallel to Airport and has two stations built along this stretch; 3) the impetus of the Mueller neighborhood; 4) the economic development potential; and 5) the seemingly imminent death of Highland Mall, which in theory could be redesigned as a new live-work-play urban village.

In Austin – where neighborhood associations (or a few vociferous homeowners) routinely fight new projects or planning efforts that involve developers, gentrification, or indeed any change – having neighborhood enthusiasm and support is "huge," said Riley. In fact, said Huntsberger, "some of the neighborhood associations have been pushing for something like this for a while. At first they were slightly skeptical," but after talking with Riley and seeing Polikov's presentation, "now they're optimistic, because the city and council want to work to make this happen."

"We are very excited about it," said Katrina Daniel, past president of Highland Neighborhood Association and vice president of the city's Highland neighborhood plan contact team. "This area is like an old house that you look at and you think, 'Why doesn't somebody fix that up?' Council Member Riley's interest, and the rail together, might be just the right catalyst to help this area achieve its full potential.

"We haven't been one of those neighborhoods that resists density," she added. "There's a lot of underutilized land that could be a great opportunity to do affordable housing, because we're just five miles from Downtown – and with the bus rapid transit and rail coming through, it feels even closer." She was bullish on using form-based code to establish specific rules for new development patterns, "because you just have to add density the right way."

Indeed, an intriguing advantage of form-based code is that it offers a way to break the cycle of Austin's infamous neighborhood vs. developer fights. Those typically are spurred when a project seeks variances to existing zoning and to the preferred vision expressed in neighborhood plans. Mandatory form-based code, by contrast, makes it law that future new projects must conform to the people's vision. "The neighborhoods would be fully engaged; the coding is based on a community plan," explained Polikov. (So far he has been assisting Riley pro bono; he's also on the team for the city's Strategic Mobility Plan.) "This initiative will create a context in which the neighborhoods and community define what developers can do – sensitive, context-based, true infill development."

But what about the gentrification problem? "That's why corridor redevelopment is a good idea – it will allow infill to occur while preserving neighborhood integrity," Polikov responded. "It occurs only on the edge, where it should. You're not redoing whole areas, like is occurring in East Austin, where you have whole blocks changing." Form-based code regulates not just buildings but also public and open space and streetscapes – potentially with more finesse and holistic vision than our current commercial design standards. "Form-based code creates a highly tailored set of regulations for new development, designed to make sure the community's plan occurs," Polikov said. "That's the difference with form-based code – developers are actually required to implement the community's plan, for things like scale, walkability, and connectivity." It can provide the crucial piece long missing from city neighborhood plans – a hammer that forces developers to add attractive infill of the kind residents want.

Transit-Oriented Development

Robert Vasquez, owner of Tamale House at 5003 Airport, was dubious when I spoke to him about Riley's form-based code initiative. (It was the first he'd heard of it.) "I've been here 31 years, and it's still hard to make a dollar," he said. Out front, the building's paint is peeling; the tiny interior has few tables and no air conditioning. Unlike McGuire and Huntsberger, Vasquez doesn't own the property. He worries that "a new code could mean it would be hard to start any kind of business, unless you have a stack of money." He added: "I've never seen any improvements that didn't result in higher property taxes. If they go sky-high, people probably can't afford to live here anymore."

Yet when Vasquez talked about his business' challenges, they included the very problems the corridor initiative would strive to correct. "There's so many obstacles, like bad street crossings," he said. "My business stays level, and that's it." He remembers speaking some years back to a would-be competitor planning to open a restaurant nearby; the man expected that business would be great, because Airport has so much traffic. Vasquez told him: "Sure there's a lot of traffic, but it doesn't stop. It just goes by. They just pass through here." It's the classic curse of the suburban throughway.

Capital Metro's Red Line commuter rail service will run right along this stretch of Airport; the passenger stations are built and ready to open at both Crestview (at Lamar) and Highland (across from the mall). But Vasquez didn't see how that would help his business or save Highland Mall. "Nobody's going to get off that train to come to the Tamale House," he said. "They'll just whiz on past, like the traffic does." He mentioned, though, that he'd seen places on television he liked the look of – where people actually did their shopping and eating around commuter rail stations.

But based on Riley's research, the presence of rail transit that's about to begin service any day (or month or year) has the potential to transform the corridor. Transit-oriented development is another everything-old-is-new-again trend being successfully used to create walkable neighborhood centers that spur economic development in many of Austin's peer cities. Already, the Crestview station has spawned Midtown Commons – a New Urbanist, three-star green-built transit-oriented development now leasing apartments and slowly signing up office and retail tenants, such as Black Star Co-op Pub & Brewery.

If the city can seed a positive, collective vision for the corridor, said Riley, private investment can help implement it. Airport might be a good candidate for tax-increment financing – a tool that funds new public improvements (as at Mueller) by capturing the increased property taxes that they stimulate over time. Such improvements to the public realm – things like wider sidewalks with trees, landscaped medians, and significant roadway improvements – typically attract new development. Mueller itself is a positive influence as well; McGuire said he'd already seen the new retail and homes there begin to raise up the whole neighborhood.

"When you see what other cities have done and you look at Airport Boulevard, it's kind of a no-brainer," commented Dennis McDaniel, whose company is a general partner and manager for Highland Village, a strip shopping center across Lamar from Midtown Commons. His group is planning to redevelop it following a similar transit-oriented model. "I'm really encouraged by [Chris Riley's] creativity and the attitudes of other members of council," he said. "I see all that land along there turning over for a higher use."

The Dying Mall

In the middle of the stretch is the gasping Highland Mall. These days, the expanse of parking lot surrounding it is largely empty of cars. About 40% of the retail space is vacant. In the spring of 2009, Dillard's sued the mall's owners for letting it become a "ghost town." The co-owners – Simon Property Group and General Growth Properties (which manages it, and which declared Chapter 11 bankruptcy in April 2009) – countersued, claiming breach of contract, "business disparagement," and "interference with business relations," the *Austin Business Journal* reported.

Clearly Highland Mall needs a fresh vision of its own. Many cities work with mall owners and master developers to transform outdated malls into well-designed town centers. The huge tract could serve as an economic engine

for a whole corridor-remake effort, said Riley; others reported that investment groups are already circling like vultures around the property. The worst-case scenario would be another Northcross Mall debacle – in which the owner quietly got city administrative approval of a site plan for an uninspired redo anchored by a Wal-Mart. Northcross owner Lincoln Property Group largely ignored the city's new commercial design standards and neighborhood goals, generating furious outcry by residents, lawsuits, and much embarrassment and frustration for council members. Riley isn't worried about a repeat; as a practical matter, he said, Highland Mall's ownership is so fractured that nothing can happen quickly there. (But in November, it was reported that Simon is exploring the acquisition of its main rival, General Growth Properties, whose bankruptcy was described by Reuters as "the biggest real estate failure in U.S. history.") But council might be wise to take preemptive action now to ensure city planning input on a mall redevelopment – such as requiring its approval (and/or a conditional use permit, which triggers public hearings) for any new site plan submitted.

See Chris Riley's presentation on "Re-inventing Austin's Corridors" with this story online at **austinchronicle.com**. *For examples of large-scale corridor planning projects around the country, see the Project for Public Spaces publication "Great Corridors, Great Communities" at* **www.pps.org/pdf/bookstore**.

In the end, said Riley, piloting this corridor redevelopment and form-based code project is a "very valuable parallel effort" to developing a comprehensive plan for Austin. "It seems like we're positioned to keep doing more of the same; to preserve existing neighborhoods, we'll tend to keep sprawling outwards," he observed. "Corridors present a very appealing opportunity to accommodate some of that growth, in a way that would support a whole range of community interests." They're a place to realize abstract goals that citizens have identified in early comprehensive planning sessions, such as more affordable housing and reduced household transportation costs. Applying a form-based code to Airport Boulevard, Riley said, "offers a way to make concrete progress on the kinds of theories we'll talk about in the Comprehensive Plan." To implement the "grand strategy," he said, we need a specific project that "burrows into the details, the tactics of how it can happen."

While we're at it, how about a citizen contest to rename the road once again? With namesake Mueller Airport long gone, the name is now as outdated as Sixties sprawl, and it confuses visitors trying to catch a plane. Rechristening it just might help rally a rebirth. Boundless Boulevard, perhaps? ■

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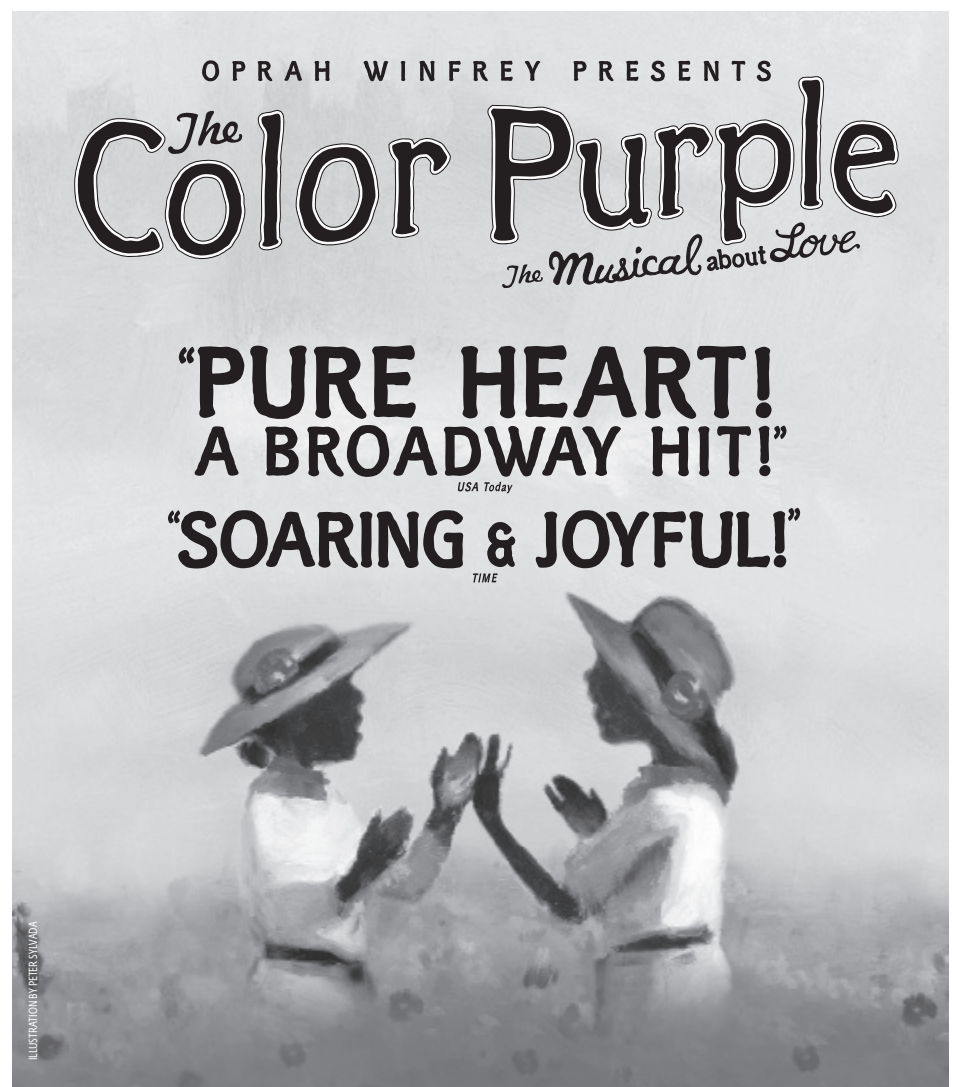


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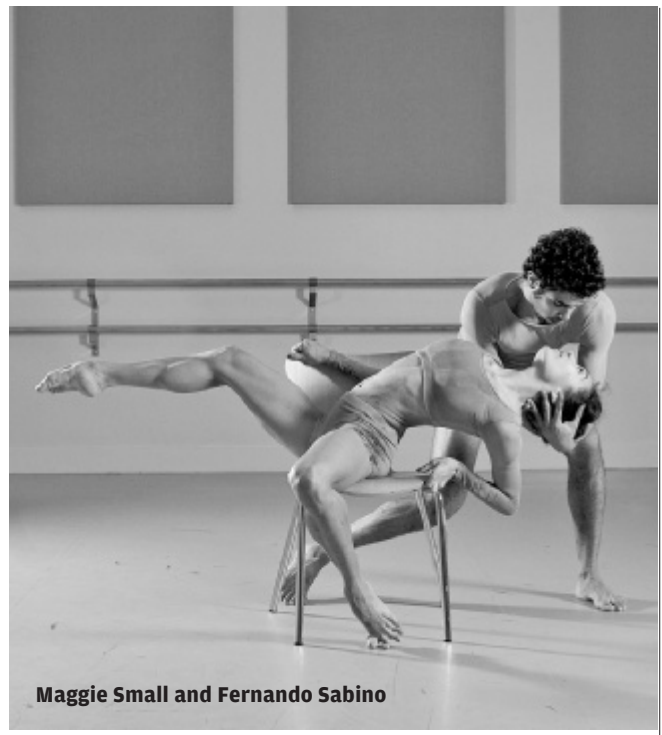
A VOICE OF HER OWN

Gina Patterson takes a step forward with a new dance company

On the day after Christmas, when most are shamelessly returning those thought-that-counts gifts or downing leftover wassail, the first rehearsal of Voice Dance Company is under way in a vast studio off west RM 2222. Dancers Masa Kolar, a freelance artist from Zagreb, Croatia, and Chris Hannon, on loan from the James Sewell Ballet in Minneapolis (and a former member of Ballet Austin), haven't met before the rehearsal, but their compatibility is striking. As choreographer Gina Patterson creates a nuzzling, orbiting, convulsing duet for them, it is apparent that their styles and physiques are completely complementary. Both have balletic lines on the raw side; her sinews are just the slightly smaller, slighter, feminine match to his. They both have dark curls pulled back in ponytails. Their facial bone structures are even similar. At times during the as-yet-untitled work in progress, the dancers accentuate this likeness by pressing their heads gently together, ear to ear, as they run across the studio. It's a delicate and bold image, quite touching.

Voice is a new venture co-founded by Artistic Director Patterson and her husband, Eric Midgley, both dancer-choreographers and former Ballet Austin dancers. During a quick-fire two-week rehearsal period, four more dancers – two from Richmond Ballet in Virginia, one from DanceWorks Chicago, and Michelle Thompson of Ballet Austin – will join the cast of Voice's premiere. One thing the new company will allow her to do, Patterson says, is "gather dancers that I want to savor more time with." Such dancers, she says, bring their own artistic sense into the studio and have that certain je ne sais quoi that inspires her work.

But the formation of Voice is also pragmatic, says Midgley: "There are things that you have to have some sort of container for." A much needed vehicle for showing and promoting Patterson's work at home – although her work is regularly commissioned and performed by companies and at festivals around the country and abroad, local performances have been relatively rare – Voice will also be a base for development of some bigger projects the duo has conceived together. For those who have been watching Patterson's dancing and choreography in Austin since she first joined Ballet Austin in 1988, Voice has been a long time coming.



Maggie Small and Fernando Sabino

The first half of the inaugural performance will be a series of new pieces by Patterson, some of which may be, unbeknownst to the audience, the seeds of those bigger projects to come. They'll be threaded together in some way, somewhat like the accompanying art installation in the theatre lobby, the "Dream Threads Project," which will consist of images created by Deborah Maris Lader that have been downloaded, altered, and sent in by regular folks and assembled by Virginia Fleck. The second half of the show will be a restaging of *My Witness*, a work Patterson created last spring in Chicago, with onstage accompaniment by Chicago-based musicians the Sons of the Never Wrong.

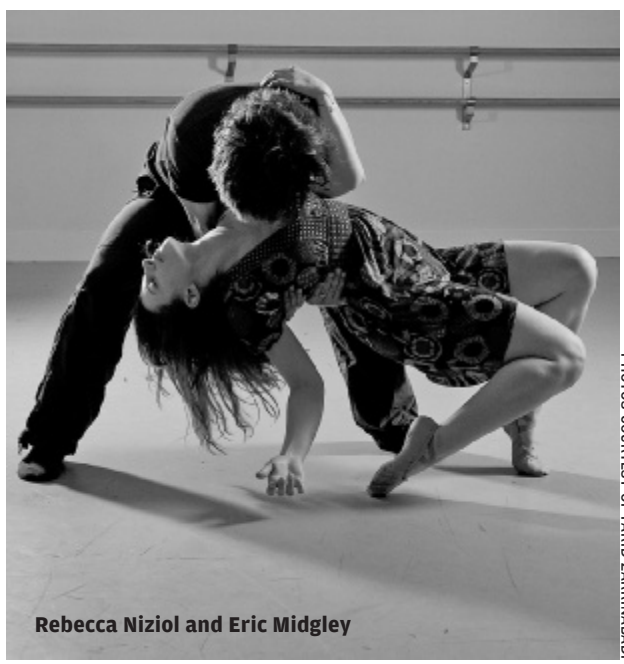
Despite some tentative long-term strategies for Voice, the couple is trying to avoid setting any specific expectations for the company. For now, Patterson says: "The 'voice' is just ideas and concepts that we both believe, and we're keeping it fluid so it will have room to grow. I don't want to put barriers on it too soon. So I am staying open to where we need to go, but the values and the core of it is what we've put forward now."

Once or twice during our post-rehearsal conversation, Patterson loses the linear train of thought. Midgely explains: "Once she gets in choreographic mode, it's all imagery. It's not language-based. It's not as precise as words." Or maybe more precise?

Patterson: "We were just discussing that last night. I do think the great thing about dance is you can say so much with a simple movement, or just in the silence of something, with no words, that's so much more powerful."

Midgley: "It communicates to the viewer in a different way, too, because you're used to interpreting language into imagery. So when you see imagery that just connects with you directly, there's a whole other level that's functional, that's not about interpretation on the intellect." – *Jonelle Seitz*

Voice Dance Company will perform Friday and Saturday, Jan. 8 and 9, 8pm, at the Zach Theatre Kleberg Stage, 1421 W. Riverside. For more information, visit **www.voicedancecompany.org**.



Rebecca Niziol and Eric Midgley

PHOTOS COURTESY OF FARID ZARRINABADI

culture flash!

- **Trouble Puppet Theater Company** scored big with its recent production of *The Jungle*, which appeared in the Top 9 lists of three *Chronicle* Arts writers. It also earned the company a **Jim Henson Foundation** Project Grant to assist in a more fully realized remount in 2011. Trouble Puppet had received a small seed grant from the foundation to help with last September's premiere, and the Henson folks were apparently impressed enough with the results to send a little encouragement Trouble Puppet's way. Before he gets back to *The Jungle*, Artistic Director Connor Hopkins will be hard at work pulling bunnies out of his hat for *A Brief Narrative of an Extraordinary Birth of Rabbits*, a new play by C. Denby Swanson, which opens Feb. 11 at Salvage Vanguard Theater, and an autumn revival – maybe that should be "resurrection" – of the Trouble Puppet adaptation of *Frankenstein*. For more information, visit **www.troublepuppet.com**.

- Speaking of Salvage, this weekend sees the company welcoming back to town **Ruth Margraff**, a playwright we've seen far too little of in recent years. In the late Nineties, hers was one of the most daring voices in the local playwriting scene, even though she wasn't really an Austin resident. But since Jason Neulander produced her work so regularly at SVT – two productions each of her operas *Wallpaper Psalm* and *The Cry Pitch Carrolls*, plus the premiere of her "extended barroom brawl" riffing on Texas' fight for independence, *Centaur Battle of San Jacinto* – and she briefly taught playwriting at the University of Texas Department of Theatre & Dance, she more than qualified for local status. She presented her dark operetta *Judges 19: Black Lung Exhaling* at FronteraFest in 2001, and the Rude Mechs created *Stadium Devildare* with her in 2004, but since then, she's not been around. As if to compensate for her absence, SVT is offering A Weekend of Ruth Margraff, with the playwright's band Café Antarsia opening for a staged reading of her new parlor play *Over the Garden Wall*, which will feature actors Robert Pierson, Mark Stewart, Jamie Rhodes, La Tasha Stephens, and Jason Hays directed by SVT Artistic Director Jenny Larson. That's Friday and Saturday, Jan. 8-9, 7pm, Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd. For more information, visit **www.salvagevanguard.com**.



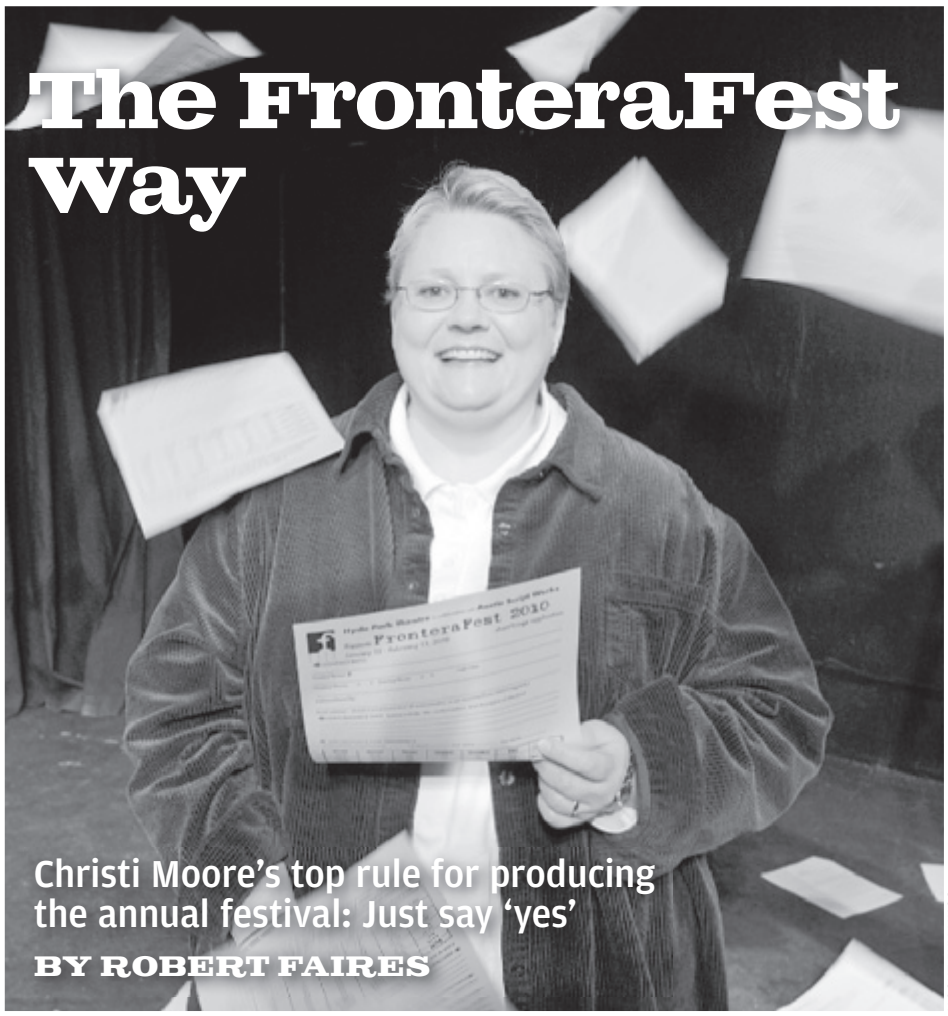
Ruth Margraff

And if you'd like to see a different side of Margraff, catch her appearance the following week, in the reunion of Dallas superfunk alt.country rock band Fever in the Funkhouse Saturday, Jan. 16, 9pm, at Stubb's, 801 Red River. For more information, call 480-8341.



- And in another Salvage-related vein, ***The Intergalactic Nemesis***, a spoof of retro science-fiction serials that originated at SVT and has become a major project for SVT co-founder and former Artistic Director Jason Neulander, gets a new incarnation this month when the original live version combines with the graphic-novel adaptation as a short preceding certain feature films at the **Alamo Drafthouse**. According to Neulander, the artwork by Tim Doyle will be projected panel by panel with live voices, music, and sound effects. The "living comic book," as he calls it, will be presented as an honest-to-gosh serial, with one 10-minute chapter being presented over one weekend each month. The concept debuts this week with issue one, "Mystery at Kradmoor," being shown before the 7pm screenings of *Daybreakers* Friday-Sunday, Jan. 8-10. For details, visit **www.originalalamo.com**. And Wednesday, Jan. 13, sees a comic book signing of *The Intergalactic Nemesis* at Austin Books & Comics, 5002 N. Lamar, from 5 to 7pm. For more information, visit **www.austinbooks.com**. – *Robert Faires*

The FronteraFest Way



JOHN ANDERSON

Christi Moore's top rule for producing the annual festival: Just say 'yes'

BY ROBERT FAIRES

Congratulations! You've just won the plum job of producing a long-running, much-loved performance festival that takes place annually at the start of the year. All you have to coordinate is this: five weeks of performances, five nights a week, five performances a night, with each one unique and having its own distinctive light plot, sound, set – which must be able to be set up in no more than five minutes and struck in the same – and, of course, its own performer or performers, who have been given 25 minutes to do whatever the hell they want and who frequently take full advantage of that freedom to do things that, let's say, push the envelope of conventional theatrical practice. And in the middle of that five weeks, you *also* have to oversee 18 other completely different shows running at two *other* theatres, each show playing four times, *but* they're spread randomly over two weeks, so each of those distinctive light plots, sets, yadda yadda yadda have to be changed out anywhere from two to six times a day. And you're responsible for one day of performances that aren't in *any* of these theatres but are in people's *homes* scattered all across the city. Oh, and in addition to the performances themselves, you have to work out the scheduling and techs for them all. *And* get the personnel to run them. *And* answer questions from the scores of participants and deal with their cancellations and snafus. *And* update information on them and get it disseminated to all pertinent parties in a timely fashion.

Sound like herding cats? Underwater? To do a synchronized swimming routine?

Welcome to Christi Moore's world. For nine years now, the secretary and executive director of playwrights service organization Austin Script Works has shouldered this Atlas-like burden as the producer of FronteraFest. It is a position that requires the organizational capabilities and forbearance of someone who has planned, oh, I don't know, D-Day (with the caveat that D-Day only had to be planned once *and* it involved people who were trained to follow orders, as opposed to actors). It also sucks all of Moore's time for not only the 33 days from the opening of the Short Fringe to the last night of Best of Fest but pretty much the six weeks before that as well. (Those holidays you just enjoyed so don't really exist for Moore. Ask her about the umpteen e-mails she received from festival participants on *Christmas Day*.) And it demands that she be patient and more flexible than a Cirque du Soleil contortionist, because the only constant in FronteraFest is change: people dropping out, people being added in, shows getting new titles, schedules developing conflicts. "It is a moving target all the time," says Moore. "That is one of the challenges about it."

Fortunately for Moore, an infrastructure for handling those challenges was already in place when she inherited the producing mantle from Vicky Boone, who founded the festival in 1993 while artistic director of Frontera Productions. Boone and the original FronteraFest teams had worked out when applications should go out (the festival is open to anyone who signs up and pays the entry fee), when and how techs should be organized for the dozens of separate Short Fringe performances (and later, the dozen-plus Long Fringe shows), and how many bodies are necessary to propel this unwieldy train down the tracks. Moore has made some modifications over the years – no matter how much information is packed in the application materials, there are invariably incidents that make Moore think, "I need to be clearer about that" – but the structure she was handed was so sound, Moore hasn't needed to invent ways to run it. She just gets in and makes it go.

For Moore, that process starts every year in August, when she prepares the applications (with those inevitable elaborations on the process). Once those go out in September, Moore can count on spending much of the fall fielding questions from folks who still need a bit more info before they commit to applying. When she isn't answering queries from applicants, Moore is lining up her staff, the front line that will provide technical support and management services to the participants. Her lieutenants are the coordinators, each of whom oversees a venue for the Short Fringe (always at Hyde Park Theatre) or Long Fringe (this year at the Blue Theater and Salvage Vanguard Theater), maintaining communication with the participants in his or her space, managing their schedules and information flow, and overseeing the crews. Because it's such a complicated job, Moore works hard to keep coordinators from year to year, and she feels lucky to have both Austin Sheffield and Kate Kampschroeder back for a third year. (In a touching show of loyalty, Kampschroeder, who moved away from Austin last year, even came back from Hawaii to work the festival.)

"This is a customer service job," says Moore. "Basically, we try to figure out a way for people to do what they want to do. It's about supporting people's creative impulses."

Working alongside the coordinators are the stage managers, who work from the light booth and ride herd on the many varied sound and lighting plots, and the assistant stage managers, who work from the stage and make all those myriad set changes with nothing more than notes made in the individual techs and measurements made with their own feet. It's as simple as a system gets, but year in and year out, whether it's dealing with the slam poet who needs a music stand or the budding O'Neill whose scene necessitates a full-scale diner – with drive-through lane! – it works.

What makes the backstage personnel so key with FronteraFest is just that: the diverse needs of the festival participants. The hallmark of the festival has always been the freedom it offers, its "anything goes" approach. ("As long as it's legal," says Moore, it's a go.) So you have monologists, slam poets, modern dancers, improv troupes, hip-hop artists, classical musicians, Butoh dancers, filmmakers; you have kitchen-sink realism, absurdist comedy, musical theatre, therapeutic theatre, cooking shows, stage combat, audience surveys, lectures, rituals; you have experienced theatre artists, children and teens seeking stage experience, seniors who have never set foot on a stage; you have music onstage, food onstage, blood onstage, and occasionally group masturbation onstage (only simulated); and you have nudity, nudity, and more nudity (though, to be fair, lately not so much). Any festival this open, in terms of both content and experience, needs to be run by people who are themselves open: broad-minded, nonjudgmental, and willing to set aside their personal aesthetics to assist everyone who has brought a project to their stage. Without them, it can't be what it was created to be.

See, when Moore inherited FronteraFest, she didn't inherit just the structure of performances and procedures; she inherited a philosophy that is the festival's foundation. She inherited the FronteraFest Way. This is "a Vicky [Boone] creation," Moore says, "and it's very much a reflection of Vicky's personality, which is kind and gentle and helpful and supportive. Basically, we try to figure out a way for people to do what they want to do. It's about supporting people's creative impulses. I really, really emphasize with my people: This is a customer service job. We're here to make people feel comfortable, to give them everything that they need. It will happen maybe twice during the whole festival that somebody will want to do something that is just not possible for us to do. But we always try. So if somebody brings their whole diner set onstage, we say, 'All my crew, strike.' We plan it out. And I get out the stopwatch and I time them. The same with light cues and all that stuff. We'll try anything three times, and if we can't get it right, then we'll ask people to [change it]. It's about saying 'yes' as much as we possibly can."

That's especially important for participants who are not regulars in the local performing arts scene, who may be using FronteraFest's openness to do something they've never done before. "I think we really honor the fact of how brave they are to do that," says Moore. "I know what it's like to be up there and going, 'What am I doing here?' That's another reason why, whether they're performers or not, we want to support them."

Ultimately, it's that underpinning philosophy that makes the mammoth task of running FronteraFest something that Moore came back to do a second time, a third time, a seventh, eighth, and now ninth time. The FronteraFest Way takes her out of the spotlight, that position of most important consideration, and puts someone else there, someone who needs help to realize a dream. That's the part of the job description for FronteraFest producer that doesn't get much play: You get to help make people's dreams come true.

Can't say that about herding cats. ■

FronteraFest Schedule

THE SHORT FRINGE AT HYDE PARK THEATRE

The foundation of FronteraFest is the Short Fringe, five weeks of performances in which all the works run 25 minutes or less. For the first four weeks, Tuesdays through Fridays are first-run performances, with the Saturday programs offering encores – the Best of Week as selected by judges. Then the fifth week is devoted to pieces judged Best of Fest. Each Wednesday will feature a work that was commissioned by the playwrights organization Austin Script Works. The 2009 Short Fringe runs Jan. 12-Feb. 13, Tuesday-Saturday, 8pm, at Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd. For more information, call 479-7529 or visit **www.hydeparktheatre.org**.


"Cathy Dresden Sings for Her Supper"

Tuesday, Jan. 12

"Just Eat Johnny" by Jericho Thorpe & Leah Moss. Improvised comedy with clowns that have seen the darker side of the circus.

"Nattie: At the DMV" by Natasha Sanchez. Nattie chronicles her journey of self-discovery in unlikely places such as the Department of Motor Vehicles and McDonald's.

"Something Like Loneliness" by Ryan Dowler. Two neighbors learn that even the hardest memories are meant to be shared.

"Party in the Desert" by Cecilia Brie Walker. Hagar in the desert, Sarah at Ishmael's 13th birthday, and the birth of two nations who will war for millennia.

"Christian U2ber" by Tom Truss. A look at a young teen's naive YouTube exploration and the dangerous fallout that follows.

Wednesday, Jan. 13

"Packing Memories" by Allison Orr Block. Two movers face an elderly woman as she rebels against her daughter's plans to place her in assisted living.

"Whistle" by Meg Haley (ASW commission). How the past, the future, freedom, choice, and imagination pushed Gigi and Ben together into a relationship.

"Things in Life" by Ben Prager. Comic monologues that portray with unblinking realism "ordinary" Americans, excerpted from his Long Fringe show.

"We Are All Volunteers" by John M. Meyer. A collage of wartime scenes from the Long Fringe piece titled *American Volunteers*.

"Saint Matilde's Malady" by Kyle John Schmidt. A swashbuckling new play about rage, love, and other sexually transmitted diseases.

Thursday, Jan. 14

"Damas, Dramas, and Ana Ruiz" by Belinda Acosta. A performance/reading from Belinda Acosta's *Damas, Dramas, and Ana Ruiz*.

"Donkeyskins" by Georgia Young. An avant-garde interpretation of the fairy tale by Charles Perrault.

"Where Am I" by Kate Cleary. An inquiry into the questions of who, where, and how am I in my life right now using spoken word, props, dance.

"Incantations" by Philip Kreyche. Alone on an isolated island, Antonin Artaud speaks about his life, pain, and true spiritual freedom.

"John Brown From BOB" by Stuart Hersh. John Brown appears before the United States Commission on Race Relations just before being hanged for treason.

Friday, Jan. 15

"And I Said" by Mike Henry. A one-man spoken word show by the longtime Austin Slammaster.

"The Mommy Confessions: An Excerpt" by Rhonda Kulhanek. Three stories of motherhood excerpted from the one-woman Long Fringe show.

"Alcoholic Drama" by Tommy LeVrier. One-act play.

"Cardigan" by Trey Deason. A heckler in the audience causes Edgar Cardigan to embellish his story with extravagant details until the truth is irrelevant.

TBA

Saturday, Jan. 16

Best of Week One

Tuesday, Jan. 19

"Kitsune Parade" by Ellen Stader. A dance piece about the choreographer's encounters with foxes, set against a mystical Japanese fox-wedding procession.

The Bitter Poet's "Looking for Love in All the Wrong Cafes, Strip Clubs and Black Box Performance Spaces" by Kevin Draine. Satirical poems about searching for true love from the Long Fringe show.

Midnight Society. Improv from the troupe known for absurd humor and obscure pop-culture references.

"Growth" by Danny Strack. A set of poems on time, space, sex, relationships, and how they fit together.

"The Punchline" by Alex Berry. A story about two sick people perfectly suited for their inevitable ends.

Wednesday, Jan. 20

"Working Title" by Blacklisted Individuals. A journey of sound, set to the tragedies and triumphs of two working-class artists.

"I'm not a writer ... but I got a story to tell" by La Tasha Stephens. You see these people every day. To you, they're part of the landscape. But what if one day the landscape talked back?

"Love Puzzle" by Marcella Garcia & Jonathan Blackwell. Romantic comedy? Tragedy? Drama? See if you can put the pieces together.

"Consultant for Hire" by Max Langert (ASW commission). Hire me!

"Single Being" by Tom Truss. Four solo vignettes about isolation with audience members using their iPods, cell phones, or other handheld devices.

CONTINUED ON P.26





Thursday, Jan. 21

"I've Got You Under My Skin" by Kate Motzenbacker. A problematic burlesque.

"H." by Kristen Kosmas, performed by Steve Moore. A man. A window and chair.

"Stoners and Self-Appointed Saints" by Annie La Ganga. Monologues and poems about awkward grieving, bad judgment, and important stoners.

"Circled in Red" by Aslan Hollier, based on the idea of Sarah McKinney. A comedy about guys' points of view of women on their periods.

"T–" by Cindy Vining. An extract from Euripides' *The Trojan Women*.

Friday, Jan. 22

"Crossing the Line" by Jessica Arnold. A comedy about the division of personality and the consequences thereof.

"Here, Nigger" by Roger Reeves. A 17-year-old boy finds a Ku Klux Klan robe in the woods and wears it as a prank, but the robe has a mind and will of its own.

"Prep" by Susan Busa & George Ayres. Headmaster Tab teaches Will Lassater all there is to know about traditions at the Worthington Prep Academy for Boys.

The Glamping Trip. David Lee Hess, Lisa Jackson, and John Ratliff create improv using personal monologues as a starting point.

"The Re-Branding Meeting" by Larry Hill. From the hit *I (Heart) Wal-Mart*, a satirical monologue aimed right at the gut of the big box retailer.

Saturday, Jan. 23

Best of Week Two

Tuesday, Jan. 26

"The Wafer" by Sandra Fountain. Five actors rehearsing for scene study class run into taboos and technical difficulties no one could have anticipated.

"Damned Avalanche" by Jenny Carlson & Patrick Knisely. An improvised comedic piece with strong characters in absurd situations.

THE LONG FRINGE

The Long Fringe consists of productions that can run up to 90 minutes, each of which is performed four times over a two-week period. This year, you can see 18 such works between Jan. 18 and 31 at either the Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., or the Blue Theater, 916 Springdale. A 19th work is being presented as part of the festival's occasional Bring Your Own Venue program. Long Fringe tickets range from $5 to $12. For more information, call 479-7529 or visit **www.hydeparktheatre.org**.

LONG FRINGE AT SALVAGE VANGUARD THEATER

Lady M

(Melissa Rodriguez) Gruoch Comegáin is a Scottish noblewoman happily married with a child. What happens to transform her into the fiendlike Lady Macbeth? Directed by Matthew Braylon Haynes. *Tuesday, Jan. 19, 8:45pm; Saturday, Jan. 23, 5:15pm; Monday, Jan. 25, 9:15pm; Thursday, Jan. 28, 7pm.*

Some Other Day

(Ben Schave & Caitlin Reilly) Schave and Reilly's take on the inevitable: death and weather. With their absurd blend of physical comedy and dance, the clowns take 'em on. *Tuesday, Jan. 19, 7pm; Wednesday, Jan. 27, 9:15pm; Saturday, Jan. 30, 2:15pm; Sunday, Jan. 31, 8:15pm.*

Dance Carousel

(Spank Dance Company) Forty one-minute dances – four each created by local choreographers Ellen Bartel, Tom Benton, Yvonne Ferrufino, Nikki Jonston, Meredith Knight, Lisa Kobdish, Sumi Komo, Maia McCoy, Rosalyn Nasky, and Janna Rock. *Monday, Jan. 18, 7pm; Saturday, Jan. 23, 3:15pm; Friday, Jan. 29, 7pm; Sunday, Jan. 31, noon.*

Bohemian Cowboy

(Raymond King Shurtz) An authentic portrayal of a theatre artist, a bohemian, and a cowboy still searching for the West and for his father who walked into the Nevada desert and vanished. *Thursday, Jan. 21, 9:15pm; Sunday, Jan. 24, 8:15pm; Wednesday, Jan. 27, 7pm; Saturday, Jan. 30, noon.*

Things in Life

(Ben Prager) Three-time Best of Fest winner Prager reprises his comic monologues that portray with unblinking realism "ordinary" Americans. Directed by Wynne West. *Saturday, Jan. 23, 1pm; Monday, Jan. 25, 7pm; Saturday, Jan. 30, 8:30pm; Sunday, Jan. 31, 3:45pm.*

An Evening With Chastity and Alan Jr.

(Alan Metoskie & Zoe Schwartz) In this comedic musical revue, famous country & western duo Alan Jr. and Chastity Gambler find their commitment to each other and to their show tested. *Monday, Jan. 18, 9pm; Wednesday, Jan. 20, 7pm; Saturday, Jan. 23, 7:15pm; Sunday, Jan. 24, 2:15pm.*

I Can't Believe It's Not Funny: The Best of Midnight Society Presents

(Midnight Society) A full hour of the best sketch comedy Austin has to offer, with troupe members Lance Gilstrap, Michael Jastroch, Joel Keith, Delaney Liming, Andy Petruzzo, Nick Ramirez, Kyle Sweeney, Jericho Thorp, and Michael Williams. *Wednesday, Jan. 20, 8:45pm; Sunday, Jan. 24, 6:15pm; Thursday, Jan. 28, 9pm; Sunday, Jan. 31, 2pm.*

Hotel Morocco

(Aaron Black) Having lost his dad, girlfriend, and job, Adam is stuck as the overnight bellman at Hotel Morocco, a Times Square tourist trap. And now the owners want him dead. Directed by Shannon Davis. *Friday, Jan. 22, 9:15pm; Sunday, Jan. 24, noon; Tuesday, Jan. 26, 7pm; Saturday, Jan. 30, 6:15pm.*

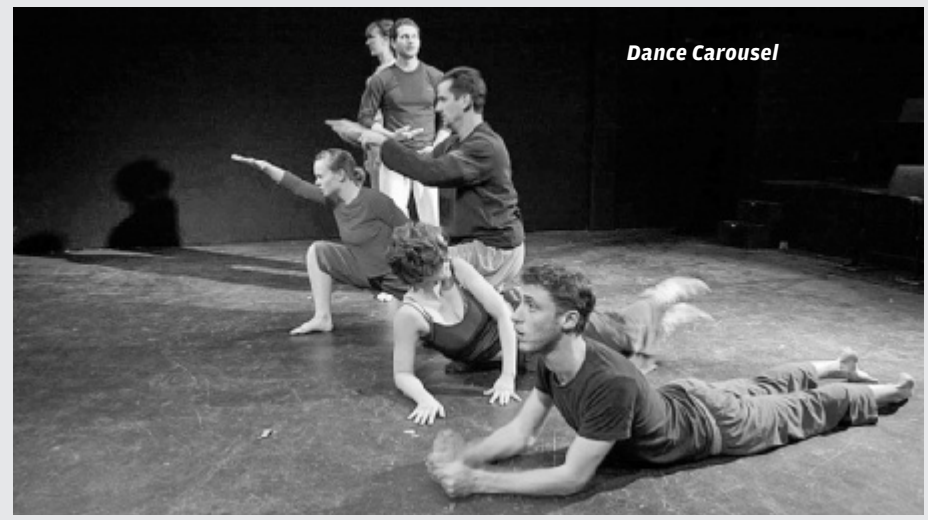
BRING YOUR OWN VENUE (BYOV)

In This House (Everything Is You)

(Salvage Vanguard Theatre & Eponymous Garden) A ghost story examining love, loss, and family. This workshop production is written by Sharon Bridgforth, Daniel Alexander Jones, Monika Bustamante, and Cyndi Williams and co-directed by Dustin Wills and Jenny Larson. *Jan. 21-24, Thursday-Friday, 8pm; Saturday-Sunday, 5 & 8pm, at Eponymous Gardens, 1202 Garden.*

MI CASA ES SU TEATRO

A full day of site-specific and interactive works in various homes. As curated this year by DA! Theatre Collective, the day will include dance, performance art, improv, vaudeville, stop-motion animation, and comedy, all in the 78704, in locations within a 2.5-mile radius. Participating artists include Get Up improv, Sheep Army/Elsewhere Dance, Adriene Mishler & Dustin Wills, Robin Myrick, Sarah Saltwick, Johnny Villarreal's the Edge of Imagination Station, Tongue & Groove Theatre, and DA!. Saturday, Feb. 6, 11am-7pm. Tickets available at the door only, $3 per show. Full schedule at **www.hydeparktheatre.org**.



Dance Carousel

LONG FRINGE AT THE BLUE THEATER

Habit

(Robert Minshew) Timothy is down to his last five cigarettes. Moving to a new home, however, dredges up his past with his wife, Jane, and complicates the task of quitting. Directed by Josh Nanninga. *Monday, Jan. 18, 9:15pm; Saturday, Jan. 23, 6:30pm; Sunday, Jan. 24, 8:30pm; Sunday, Jan. 31, 3:30pm.*

One Man's Music: A Monologue With Song

(Vince Bell) Based on his new autobiography, Bell tells a tale about Texas music, the singer-songwriter tradition, and a personal journey – of rehabilitation from a car wreck – that ends triumphantly. *Saturday, Jan. 23, 8pm; Monday, Jan. 25, 7pm; Tuesday, Jan. 26, 9pm; Saturday, Jan. 30, 2:15pm.*

A Man, a Magic, a Music

(Melvin Brown) A journey through black music from the Fifties to the Nineties in story, song, tap, clogging, comedy, and character. With music by Ray Charles, Sam Cooke, Otis Redding, and more. *Friday, Jan. 22, 7pm; Sunday, Jan. 24, 4:15pm; Monday, Jan. 25, 8:45pm; Saturday, Jan. 30, 10:15pm.*

American Volunteers

(City on a Hill? Productions) John M. Meyers' play follows a squad of special operations rangers as they patrol the Afghanistan-Pakistan border and the conflicts that arise as they pursue life, liberty, or happiness. *Tuesday, Jan. 19, 9:15pm; Thursday, Jan. 21, 7pm; Saturday, Jan. 23, 9:45pm; Saturday, Jan. 30, noon.*

Alice!

(Chaotic Theatre Company) James Jackson Leach's play depicts a girl's descent into madness. On her journey she meets characters with sinister smiles and outrageous personalities. *Wednesday, Jan. 20, 9:15pm; Saturday, Jan. 23, noon; Thursday, Jan. 28, 7pm; Sunday, Jan. 31, 5pm.*

Love Me

(Philip Kreyche) Oskar still can't get over the love who left him several years ago. So to avoid reality and save himself, he orders a mannequin made in her image. But his fantasy is becoming a nightmare. *Monday, Jan. 18, 7pm; Saturday, Jan. 23, 2pm; Wednesday, Jan. 27, 9pm; Saturday, Jan. 30, 6pm.*

The Mommy Confessions

(Rhonda Kulhanek) Kulhanek's one-woman show features 13 characters struggling to survive their maternal lives, from a "memaw" who talks to Jesus to a former beauty queen to an unwed mother-to-be. *Wednesday, Jan. 20, 7pm; Friday, Jan. 22, 9:15pm; Saturday, Jan. 23, 4:15pm; Sunday, Jan. 31, 7pm.*

Dying City

(Capital T Theatre) Christopher Shinn's unsettling new play seeks the truth of war in a quiet, transfixing tale of grief and violence, set in the shadow of the Iraq war. *Tuesday, Jan. 19, 7pm; Sunday, Jan. 24, 2pm; Thursday, Jan. 28, 9pm; Friday, Jan. 29, 7pm.*

Feelgood Hits of the 70s

(Pommelhorse) Two roommates. On a couch. Drinking Tab. No subtext. No growth. No future. It's *Waiting for Godot* meets Richard Linklater. Written and performed by Sam L. Landman and Matthew Glover. *Wednesday, Jan. 27, 7pm; Friday, Jan. 29, 9:15pm; Saturday, Jan. 30, 8:15pm; Sunday, Jan. 31, 1:30pm.*

Looking for Love in All the Wrong Cafes, Strip Clubs and Black Box Performance Spaces

(Kevin Draine/The Bitter Poet) The Bitter Poet performs his darkly humorous, satirical, guitar-driven poems about searching for true love and the contortionists you meet along the way. *Thursday, Jan. 21, 9:15pm; Sunday, Jan. 24, 6:30pm; Tuesday, Jan. 26, 7pm; Saturday, Jan. 30, 4pm.*

"Spinning the Bottle" by Krissi Reeves. A one-woman comedy about mammal mating rituals, love, bed-wetting, and the Baudelairean idea that one should always remain drunk.
"I drove I said I did" by Natalie George. Seeing is believing. A performance about the time period between May and November of '09.
"Music Was the Air She Breathed" by Steven Laing. A dream in the mind of avant-garde composer Luciano Berio involving vocalist Cathy Berberian.

Wednesday, Jan. 27

"Battle" by Cry Havoc. A montage of mayhem through movement.
"Seamstress" by Kenneth Wayne Bradley (ASW commission). A one-woman show featuring Melanie Dean, directed by Ellie McBride.
"Autorama" by W. Joe Hoppe & David Jewell. A poetry reading by the authors.
"Histrionics" by Julie Akers. Beth discovers she is not the only female visiting Leonard's apt in the wee hours of the morning.
"You and What Sketch Show" by Matt Derman, Steve Donovan, Charles Formichella, Cortnie Jones, and Brian Engravalle. A selection of sketch comedy.

Thursday, Jan. 28

"Blue" by Aslan Hollier. A gothic story of a man who seems to live in a fairy tale doing anything he can to obtain his love he lost to death.
"The Sex of Joy" by Joy Loveall. A humorous glimpse into the world of a woman unexpectedly single at 50 as she explores sex, love, and intimacy.
"Johns and Spirits" by Jude Hinojosa. Mommy/daddy issues, gummi-bear addiction, a need for affection – just a typical night for three young prostitutes.
"Confidence Men: Improvised Mamet" by the Confidence Men. A new two-act play improvised in the style of David Mamet.
"Parents/Kids Dance Party" by Michelle Flanagan, with Rubber Repertory. Three sisters, four daughters, two moms, and a grandma *get down*!

Friday, Jan. 29

"Natasha Sonovavitch in 'Dancing With the Czars'" by Sue Bilich. The world's oldest living athlete is back to make the audience fall in love with her.
"The Struggle Within" by Danielle Ricci. A dance piece with spoken word about the struggle within one's mind when faced with a life-altering decision.
Boy Toy. ColdTowne Theater Conservatory teachers and graduates perform the Harold long-form improv.
"Astronaughty" by Keira McDonald, music/lyrics by Dafyyd James. A musical about a female astronaut who drives 900 miles to mace her rival in love.
"The Color of Pain" by Kristie Schuh. Experience the emotional effects of pain through the eyes of color.

Saturday, Jan. 30

Best of Week Three

Tuesday, Feb. 2

"When You Say Go Here" by Errin Delperdang in collaboration with Matthew Young. A movement piece that deals with proximity.
"Spit" by Evie Worsham aka June Doe. Short stories that offer striptease views of the inner workings of the author's heart, after all the therapy.
"19 Years" by Julianna Fry. After a 19-year-old's suicide, his family unravels some of the mysteries of his life and explores the fluid meaning of family.
"Heartbreakers and Other Good Guys" by Kat Williams. Feel the grief of loss, the empowerment of anger, and the freedom of loving in this piece.
"Poor Life Choices" by Leah Moss. One woman shares all the sage and disastrous advice that has guided her to make supremely poor life choices.

Wednesday, Feb. 3

"The Understudy: A Musical" by Rain Nox. A Broadway diva, an emo director, and the new girl battle it out in this musical comedy.
"Magician's Assistant" by Christi Ginger. Former assistant to the Amazing Christopher demonstrates freelance magic assistantship.
"FAIIING FOR YOU" by Ryan & Ross Wilsey, Chris Doubek, and Tex Carlson. A lost soul pleads with a corpse.
"An Ownership Society" by Hank Schwemmer (ASW commission). Twenty minutes somewhere between possessing and being possessed.
"Cathy Dresden Sings for Her Supper" by Joe Hartman. That singer with a heart of gold and pipes to match gamely makes her way through the Midwest of 1959 with pianist Jerome Tolliver in tow.

Thursday, Feb. 4

"The Wussy Boy Manifesto: Episode Five: The Wussy Boy Strikes Back" by Big Poppa E. New poetry about beards, making love, and the joys of pubic hair.
"Sea Witches & Storms" by Lorene Stilwell. Fantastical tales of the fisherfolk of the Hebrides.
"ms" by Molly Fonseca. A solo play that explores the journey of accepting a diagnosis and offers a turn toward hope.
"Gus!" by David Meyers & Patrick Knisely. Act I of a musical about a high school student who wants nothing more than to be an ice sculptor.
"Beans!" by Sharon Sparlin. The sound of a long, untroubled inhale. A satisfying exhale. Sip. Swallow.

Friday, Feb. 5

"I Have Angered a Great God" by Brad McEntire. A satire of modern public etiquette about a man who believes he has somehow angered a great god.
"A Derivative Work" by Richard L. Cambier, Hannah Kenah, and Zeb L. West. An original ensemble work of theatre by America's Theatre Company.
"Rambo: The Missing Years (Excerpt Basic Training)" by Howard Petrick. Story of an anti-war activist in 1966 who went into the Army and, without breaking the rules, spoke out against the war to his fellow GIs.
"The stuff dreams are made of" by Isabel Salazar. Does one really know when dreams end and reality begins?
"The Graveside Service" by Timothy Thomas. Loaded Gun Theory reveals the roles that KOOP Radio's Mr. Spradling and Mr. Harris played in the deaths of certain musicians.

Saturday, Feb. 6

Best of Week Four

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after a fashion

BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

HOLIDAYS & DOTS I spent most of the holidays in a fur coat and pajamas. I purposely kept a slow social schedule, feeling generally run-down and being exhausted by year-end events. The economy being what it is, gift-giving was a fairly minor affair in which I struck a deal with most of my friends that we wouldn't give one another anything but love for **Christmas**. Everyone I knew seemed to be taking it very easy this year, and it just felt right. I didn't go overboard with Christmas decorating. In fact, I didn't do any decorations at all. On Tuesday before Christmas, I spent the night at **Mark and Stephen**'s and had dinner with them. It was all toasty and warm in their living room, and we reminisced about the year and holidays past. The fire was crackling and our spirits were high, and I got endless entertainment from watching Stephen tend the fire without the proper fireplace tools. In a very **Wilma Flintstone** scenario, he was manipulating the logs and flame with what appeared to be a pitchfork and a pair of salad tongs. Endlessly entertaining, as I said, but it had never occurred to me over the past few Christmases that they didn't have the appropriate tools for managing a fire. Suddenly, I was on a mission. The next morning, **Christmas Eve Eve**, I made arrangements with my friend **Jacki-OH** to pick me up and take me to **Southpark Meadows** to shop for a few last-minute holiday necessities … *and* fireplace tools for Stephen and Mark (despite our no-gift-giving pact). My nephew **Tyler**, home from basic training in South Carolina, joined us, and together the three of us negotiated the ridiculous parking lot of Southpark Meadows. We shopped here and there, finding most of what we needed (except fireplace tools). Tyler and Jacki had found what they each wanted. Smoking a cigarette outside **Hobby Lobby** while waiting for Jacki, I began chatting with a young woman sitting near me. She was fun and pleasant in a casual way, but I complained that Jacki was taking too long, and I was cold. "Maybe you should come get warm in my store and take a look around. Might find something you like," she offered. "*Your* store?" I said. "Yes, it's **Dots**. I'm the assistant manager." I thought to myself: "Yeah, right. It looks like the kind of place that would sell **Miley Cyrus** clothes." But, aloud, I said: "Dots? How charming. I'll try and drop by sometime." I was glad I hadn't blabbed about writing about fashion and retail, but this young woman was indeed an excellent representative of the store she worked for. We chatted a bit more, and she had to go back to work. Eventually, I did indeed fess up to being ***The Austin Chronicle***'s **Style Avatar** and promised to drop by in a few minutes. Okay. Jacki was taking too long, so I went into Dots. "Hmmm," I thought. "Not a Miley Cyrus item in the whole store. This is a good sign." Being an aficionado of flashy, fun, *inexpensive* trendy things, I thought at first that I was in **Claire's**. But Tyler, Jacki, and I had already been in Claire's, and it had nothing like this stuff. It was if we had accidentally gone into Claire's older, more sophisticated sister's room instead. Tyler didn't have much interest, so I sent him to fetch Jacki from Hobby Lobby in a hurry – she *had* to see this store. Holiday dresses started at $14, jewelry was $3-15, and hats, scarves, and all kinds of other accessories were just as affordable. Jacki was wild, trying on pearls the size of **Betty Rubble**'s and a big black **Audrey Hepburn** hat that she *had* to have. I was drawn to the display of rhinestone jewelry on the wall. No, not vintage, collectible pieces, but big ol' honkin' acrylic crystals the size of **Mount Fuji**. I wanted them all and started layering them on my arms, fingers, and neck. I tried on these two rhinestone cuffs, but they were a bit tight on me (I am, of course, presuming that Dots' demographic does *not* include a large 52-year-old man with a taste for cheap jewelry). Whether the jewelry fit or not was not a problem. It was *so* inexpensive that I wanted to buy it anyway. But then … then came the moment of truth. "Look, Uncle Stephen," said Tyler, who had returned to find us after our extended absence, and he pointed to a rack of jewelry marked "**Plus Sized Jewelry**." I very nearly fainted. Oh. My. God. It was a dream come true. Jewelry for big girls. Well, it's true that the sign in the window said they carried sizes 0-24, but I never *dreamed* that would include *jewelry*. I thought I'd faint from delight. What a Christmas dream come true! Remember that name: Dots.



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While you were sleeping, these guys were making magic as the dance/electronic music universe orbits Austin: (l-r) DJ/producer Sander Kleinenberg with video guru Mark Pistoor and DJs/producers Francis Preve & Josh Gabriel

Write to our Style Avatar with your related events, news, and hautey bits: **style@austinchronicle.com** *or PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765 or 458-6910 (fax).*







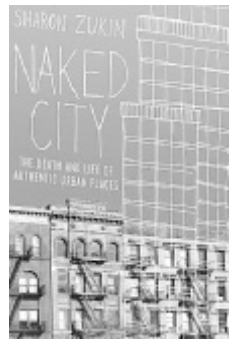




NAKED CITY: THE DEATH AND LIFE OF AUTHENTIC URBAN PLACES

by Sharon Zukin
Oxford University Press, 312 pp., $27.95

There are people who have never lived in New York City and will never tire of reading about it, and I am probably one of those people. Nevertheless, I was initially disappointed to realize that *Naked City: The Death and Life of Authentic Urban Places* concerns itself primarily with that metropolis; I had been hoping for some insight into the ways and means of gentrification and preservation a little closer to home. Turns out, of course, that those lessons are to be had even when author Sharon Zukin is laying out the specifics of, say, how Harlem became deghettoized or the ramifications of the Williamsburg hipster epidemic. In revisiting Jane Jacobs' highly influential 1961 classic, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, which advocated for small-scale, mixed-use, mixed-income neighborhoods in the face of massive urban renewal plans, *Naked City* focuses on three areas transformed by the by-now-familiar procession of flight, blight, creative colonization, media hype, governmental attention and boosterism, private investment, and high-end development – Williamsburg, Harlem, and the East Village – and then examines specific and unexpected ways that public spaces have been somewhat reclaimed or defended as what Zukin calls "authentic" places: corporate control (Union Square), food vending (Red Hook), and community gardening (East New York). In the process, Zukin makes the rather large point that Jacobs-style fetishization of a certain kind of neighborhood ultimately contributes in its own way to gentrification by appealing to wealthier people with wealthier tastes, displacing traditional businesses, and attracting development money. In grappling with notions of "authenticity" – which she poses as a question of who has a right to city spaces rather than who was there "originally" (an almost impossible claim to stake) – she concludes that the process of development in most central cities drives out poor and working-class populations entirely. The only way to maintain authenticity, she holds, is for "the state" to become involved in preservation – something Jacobs failed to see. Rather than "making markets," as she puts it, government needs to focus on preserving real affordability, providing services to all citizens, and retaining traditional residents. That bold proposition, along with Zukin's ability to assimilate what must be thousands of facts, events, and theories into a highly readable narrative, makes *Naked City* a revelation, no matter where you live.



– Cindy Widner

59 SECONDS: THINK A LITTLE, CHANGE A LOT

by Richard Wiseman
Knopf, 336 pp., $24

You need another self-help guide? Well, maybe we all do. Maybe such a thing will provide the solid foundation or the final polishing that we need as we strive for, what, perfection? Nirvana? Certainly for something a little improved over what we've personally achieved thus far.

But we could probably do without another volume of suggestions shored up by nothing more than anecdotal evidence, you think? We might hope for a manual loaded with guidance that's backed by scientific proof. After all, it wasn't wishful thinking or prayer that put humans on the moon and eradicated polio and built your neighbor's 72-inch Blu-ray-powered video monitor: It was cold, sweet, reproducible science.



Here's Richard Wiseman, author of *The Luck Factor* and *Quirkology*, offering a compilation of handy life-guidance exercises, of methods (and shall we say tricks, even) for improving your lot in life. The book is called *59 Seconds: Think a Little, Change a Lot*, because the gambits suggested can be enacted in that time or less – which is always appreciated in this rushing world. And, boo-ya, this book does that hallowed *One Minute Manager* canon one second better. And, yes, these gambits the author has gathered, these here's-what-you-do pointers, are backed up by scientific research.

Well. How rigorous some of the tests and observations may have been, we can only assume, but Wiseman, wise man that he is, provides the particulars (if not the journaled abstracts) for each suggestion. That's positive reinforcement for any rational thinker right there: Unless you fall into a tiny percentile of resistant personalities or physiological mutants, these methods will likely do what you're being told they'll do. Your iPhone doesn't run on faith; why should your life-improvement strategies have to?

Want to improve your social life by making mistakes? Research by Elliot Aronson and colleagues at the University of California is cited to show you the how and why. Wonder if it's possible to *think* your way to lower blood pressure? Well-documented investigations by Harvard University's Alia Crum and Ellen Langer provide the answer. Wiseman includes several helpful charts and quizzes among the data, too, to aid you in reaching your goals.

The other benefit of having all this casual technical reinforcement in the book is that *it becomes interesting in and of itself*, as a sort of multifaceted window into human psychology.

We haven't tested this in the laboratory and have used no control groups for proper determination, but we'll take a semieducated guess here that *59 Seconds* is a book that will provide more actual help and entertainment than many others of its kind.

– Wayne Alan Brenner

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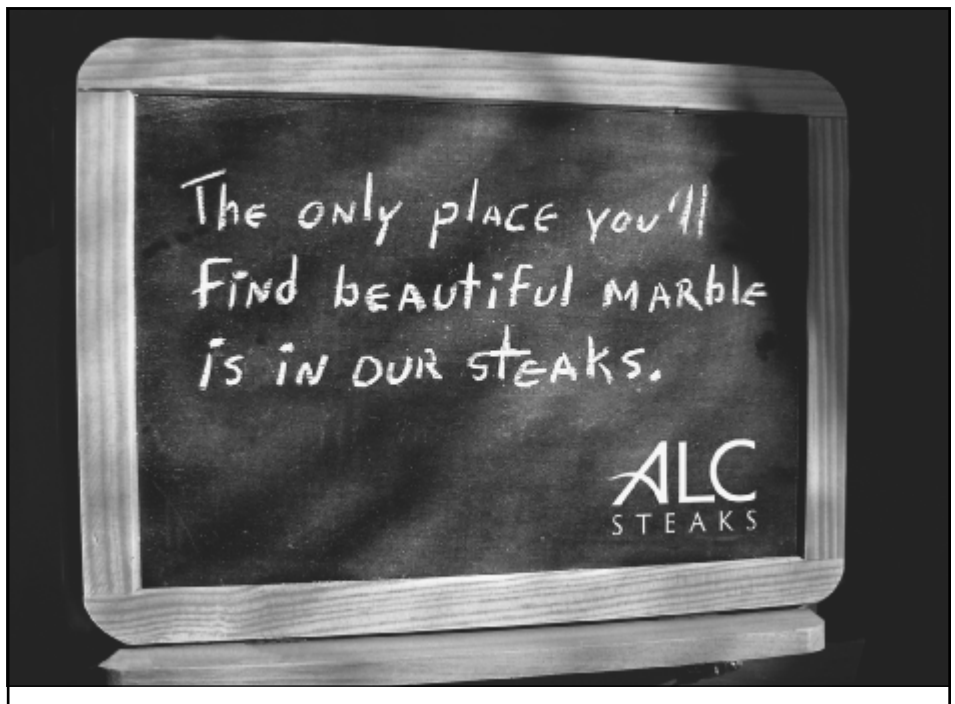
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This eclectic pleasure palace from **Alamo Drafthouse** masterminds **Tim and Karrie League** opened to immediate boffo business in late October and generated the biggest private party buzz of the recent holiday season. We dropped in during the week between Christmas and New Year's to see for ourselves what all the chatter was about. What we encountered is a hip South Austin hilltop venue with a cool vibe, decor that evokes the Sixties, and a dynamite nighttime view of Austin's Downtown skyline. The centerpiece of the main room is a **horseshoe shaped bar** offering distinctive, custom cocktails and a fabulous beer selection. To the left, guests will find **Skee-Ball** and eight **vintage bowling lanes** recovered from New Orleans' legendary **Rock 'n' Bowl** and refurbished for an Austin debut. To the right, there's a full **dining room** decked out in comfortable red and gold vinyl booths and chairs under sparkling space-age starburst light fixtures. Behind the dining room is a large **party area** complete with a hardwood dance floor, a video screen, and an overhead mirrored ball. There are also smaller, private, themed **karaoke lounges** on the second floor. Food service at the HighBall is still evolving as chef **Trish Eichelberger** strives to tailor menus to the demands of such a multifaceted venue. There are currently appetizers, comfort food entrées, sandwiches, salads, and desserts for dinner and late-night dining, with brunch and lunch items planned for the future. We'll be back. – *V.B.W.*


JOHN ANDERSON


MM PACK

Jim and Carole Wallace offer some steak-and-kidney pie at the 2009 Kidney Party.

It Takes Guts to Throw a Kidney Party

Jim and Carole Wallace's annual holiday bash is partly about gratitude, partly about sympathetic magic, partly about pitching a wang dang doodle with gustatory glee. And it all began with a kidney.

Each Dec. 8, the Wallaces host a party to commemorate Jim's successful kidney transplant 13 years ago. The tradition began on the first anniversary of the operation – they wanted to celebrate Jim's new lease on life and thank friends for their help and support during the recuperation period. Since then, the Kidney Party has become a much anticipated annual event attended by as many as 200 people. "We never know exactly how many to expect," says Carole. So they just keep cooking until it's time to stop, and there's always plenty of food and drink.

The 12th celebration took place at the Wallaces' Cedar Park home filled with good cheer and fine handmade furniture (Jim is a furniture designer and historian with a degree from Cranbrook Academy of Art). Guests – from babies to grandmas – include neighbors, fellow woodworkers, ballroom dancers (Carole is a serious competitive dancer), church friends from St. Luke's on the Lake, and out-of-town friends and relations. Actor, singer, and jewelrymaker Hink Johnson was resplendent in full Swedish St. Nicholas regalia, complete with mitre and crosier.

At first glance, the laden food tables appear to offer typical holiday-party fare. But amongst the classic deviled eggs, spinach dip, and Christmas cookies, the real theme soon emerges. It's a Kidney Party, folks, a culinary orgy of organs that features steak-and-kidney pie, liverwurst, kidney beans, pea soup, Andean-style grilled beef heart, sliced calves' tongues with horseradish sauce, liver and onions, *rumaki* (grilled Tiki-bar skewers of bacon-wrapped chicken livers and water chestnuts), salads with hearts of palm and artichoke hearts. It's all beautifully prepared and presented and judiciously labeled to alert the timid. (There are also plenty of vegan and gluten-free offerings.)

Carole is of German lineage and grew up enjoying offal. "From the first party, organ meat just seemed like the appropriate thing to serve," says Jim, smiling. They get new ideas for dishes every year; Carole's thinking about a chicken gizzard recipe next time. Can menudo be far behind? Haggis? Boudin? Headcheese?

Word is out about the Wallaces' Kidney Party; it was featured in the 2009 book *Hidden Kitchens Texas* by Nikki Silva and Davia Nelson, the Kitchen Sisters of National Public Radio fame. The party recently was mentioned in a *Los Angeles Times* article about the Kitchen Sisters and holiday food traditions.

Surrounded by friends, family, and good food, Jim and Carole Wallace have much to smile about at the party that "celebrates another year of life." Guest Linda Fryer adds: "This is a commemoration of the person who donated that kidney, too. We don't know who it was, but we think about them as well." This might remind us all to consider a living will that specifies organ donation, a potential gift of life. – *MM Pack*

Event Menu Jan. 7–10

- The **Tailgatin' for the Title** party on the patio at **Jack Allen's Kitchen** (7720 Hwy. 71 W.) happens rain or shine, with crispy whole 'Bama pig, Bevo's BBQ Rib Sliders, gumbo, chicken wings ($10 for food), Burnt Orange Margaritas, and frozen Texas tea. Thursday, Jan. 7, 3pm.
- Put on that lamé jumpsuit and celebrate what would be **Elvis Presley's 75th birthday** at your favorite Chuy's outlet (five area locations, **www.chuys.com**) with green chile fried chicken or an Elvis Memorial Combo. Show up dressed as Priscilla or the King and eat for free! Friday, Jan. 8, all day.
- Spicewood's Cuvée Coffee Roasting Co. joins the Specialty Coffee Association of America in co-hosting the annual **South Central Regional Barista Championship** at the Sheraton Austin (701 E. 11th). Winning regional baristas go on to compete at the national level later in the year. See full schedule and info at **www.usbaristachampionship.org**. Friday-Sunday, Jan. 8-10.
- Local chili chefs have until 9pm, Thursday, Jan. 7, to enter the fourth annual **Jo's Chili Cold Blood Chili Cook Off** at Jo's (1300 S. Congress, 444-3800). Contestants will be assigned spaces in the Hotel San José parking lot and prepare 4 to 5 gallons of chili for contest judging and paid crowd samples. Proceeds benefit Caritas of Austin; festivities will include live music and dancing. For complete details and to register, go to **www.joscoffee.com**, call the Hotel San José at 852-2391, or contact Chuck Lindsey at **chuck@joscoffee.com**. Saturday, Jan. 9, 8am-4pm.
- Monica Caivano of **EsquinaTango** and Laura Pellegrino of **Tango in Texas** join in presenting a weekly ***milonga***, or tango social, at Annies Cafe & Bar (319 Congress, 472-1884, **www.anniescafebar.com**). Each evening begins with mini dance lessons, and live musicians will alternate with DJs. Wednesdays, 7pm. – *V.B.W.*

food-o-file

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

2009 certainly ended in a flurry of culinary activity, with multiple restaurant openings and weekly additions to the local trailer cuisine scene. To recap: We sampled the drink-friendly comfort food at **Davis Tucker** and **John Hockenyos**' new **Red's Porch** (3508 S. Lamar, 440-REDS, **www.redsporch.com**), with a big deck overlooking the Barton Creek Greenbelt; there's a second location of the San Antonio-style Mexican food restaurant **VIVO** in far Northwest Austin (12233 RR 620 N., 331-4660, **www.vivo-austin.com**); the casual new **Lift Cafe** (215-A S. Lamar, 472-LIFT, **www.liftaustin.com**) is open just a few strides from the hike and bike trail around Lady Bird Lake; the "chef-inspired comfort food" of **24 Diner** (600 N. Lamar, 472-5400, **www.24diner.com**) is serving around the clock; after considerable feedback from their loyal Downtown customer base, Ron and Yasbel Flores have brought back their popular Cuban menu at **Habana Underground** (709 E. Sixth, 443-4252, **www.habana.com**), overlooking scenic Waller Creek on Sixth Street, just downstairs from their sports bar, the **Texas Embassy**; and former Z'Tejas corporate chef Jack Gilmore could have a hit on his hands with mouthwatering farm-to-table menu items at **Jack Allen's Kitchen** (7720 Hwy. 71 W., 852-8558, **www.jackallenskitchen.com**). On the trailer cuisine scene, I'm curious to try the late-night Indian food at the cleverly named **G'Raj Mahal** (91 Red River, 480-2255) positioned near all those busy new bars in the Rainey Street neighborhood, and I'm fascinated by the idea of quality French pastries, baguette sandwiches, and coffee from Chiapas being served out of Austin's first reimagined metal storage container cafe at **La Boîte** (1700 S. Lamar, 377-6198, **www.laboitecafe.com**)… I noticed the new **Odd Duck Farm to Trailer** (1219 S. Lamar, 695-6922, **www.oddduckfarmtotrailer.com**) in the same lot with Gourdough's and Austin Brevita over the weekend but will have to go back when it is open… In addition to saying goodbye to a personal favorite restaurant when **Evitas Botanitas** closed in December, the recent holidays also brought the news that Lisa and Mark Spedale had closed **Primizie Osteria** (1000 E. 11th) after unsatisfactory rent renegotiations with the **Austin Revitalization Authority**. The couple will continue to operate their successful catering operation and can be reached at **www.primizieaustin.com**. It seems the first casualty of the Downtown Mexican restaurant sweepstakes is the local outlet of the Colorado-based **Rio Grande** (Third & San Jacinto), which closed after New Year's Eve… We also received a clarification of a news item from Brad Fowler, whose family has owned the venerable **Ski Shores Cafe** (2905 Pearce, **www.skishores.com**) since the Fifties. Fowler advises us that the popular lakeside venue is closed for repairs and will reopen in the spring under new management… **Cannoli Joe's** (4715 Hwy. 290 W., 892-4444, **www.cannolijoes.com**) chef/partner Bob Hauser got in touch to announce he's serving **all-you-can-eat filet mignon** every night during January ($13.99 a person weeknights, $15.99 weekends). Hauser reveals the secret behind this amazing offer is the beef buying power of the restaurant's parent company, **County Line Bar-B-Q**.

Beanitos A healthy, homegrown snack debuts in the new year

I'll admit it – I did my very best to resist Beanitos in the beginning. When our receptionist told me the publicist for a local company had dropped off bags of new healthy snack chips with some salsa, my immediate reaction was to regift them to the *Chronicle* front-of-the-house staff. The term "healthy snack chips" evoked memories of flavorless pieces of baked cardboard (actually corn or potato) chips, and I couldn't have been less interested. However, the publicist persisted, and when my young friend at the front desk described the new product as "surprisingly edible," I relented and agreed to give Beanitos a shot. Now, I'm hooked.

Beanitos are the newest healthy snack to emerge from the fertile imagination and creative kitchen of local entrepreneur Doug Foreman. For those who don't recall, Foreman was the creator of another local snack product, Guiltless Gourmet Baked Tortilla Chips, which he launched from Austin in 1989. Foreman developed the baked tortilla chips when doctors advised his dad to reduce the fat in his diet after a heart attack. Doug beat all the major snack food manufacturers to the market with his baked chips and eventually sold Guiltless Gourmet to Barq's Root Beer in 1994. He was inspired to create Beanitos in much the same way, he revealed when we spoke last week. "I was looking for a way to lose some weight at about the same time I started noticing all the research about the overabundance of corn in all processed foods and how all the empty carbohydrate calories in the American diet are contributing to the obesity problem," he told me.

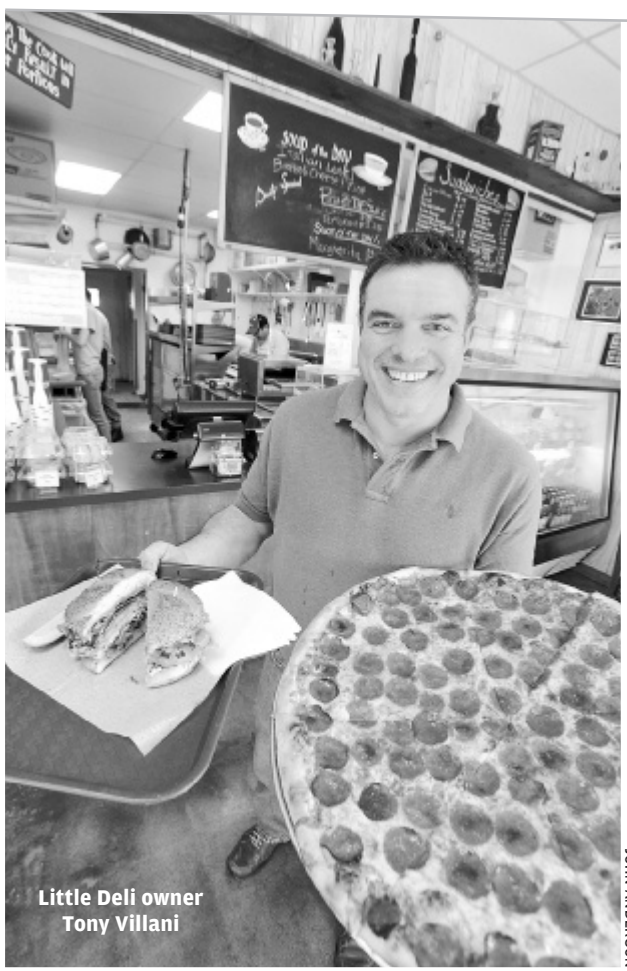
Foreman began looking for a snack-food base that would be corn-, potato-, soy-, and wheat-free, and hit on beans as the proper alternative. "The first bean we tried was one called *chana dal* that is a staple of Indian cuisine, but we were concerned that Americans might not recognize it, so we kept looking for something more familiar," he recalls. After the recent explosion of Hispanic foods on the American market, black and pinto beans seemed like a very good bet. Both are low on the glycemic index, high in fiber and omega-3 fatty acids, and rich in protein. Beanitos are the ultimate result of Foreman's quest – a high-fiber product with two-and-a-half times the protein of corn or potato chips, plus excellent crunch and good flavor. The new chips are made from black or pinto beans (with flaxseed) combined with whole grain rice to create dough that's cut into rounds and oven-baked, then flash-fried in vegetable oil before being dusted with sea salt. The two original flavors are rolling out now, and a third – all-natural Nacho Cheese Beanitos – is not far behind. Other flavor options are still in development.

So, the background research and nutritional information Foreman presents with Beanitos all sound promising and there are plenty of folks with dietary restrictions (diabetics, celiac sufferers, etc.) looking for healthier snack food alternatives, but the proof would have to be in the eating. How do they taste?

I found both varieties crisp and crunchy with hearty flavor under a light dose of salt. The round chips hold up well as a vehicle for dipping in salsa and chile con queso and make a worthy base for nachos. One of the best aspects of Beanitos is their high fiber content, which makes a smaller serving of them more filling than the average empty-calorie bag of corn or potato chips. (Foreman also shared samples of the soon-to-come cheese flavor, and those could be the best of all.) As a food editor who evaluates all kinds of prepared food products, I'm impressed; as a snack food lover with both diabetes and a weight problem, I'm sold.

Foreman and his team threw a big Beanitos launch party at the Long Center earlier this week, complete with a corn-chip-eating cow and a WWF-inspired smackdown between a giant cornstalk and a giant bean. Guests were encouraged to actually "kick the corn" from their diets using footballs decorated to look like ears of corn! Look for both bean varieties of Beanitos ($3.99 per bag) at all Texas Central Market stores and several local neighborhood markets now. H-E-B, Whole Foods Market, and Sprouts Farmers Market will be carrying them in the near future. *– Virginia B. Wood*





Little Deli owner Tony Villani

JOHN ANDERSON

Little Deli & Pizzeria

7101-A Woodrow, 467-7402
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www.littledeliandpizza.com

Step back in time to a calmer age, circa 1953, when the way-cool Crestview MiniMax was the anchor of a small strip center in what was then almost north Austin. The strip center now thrives as a neighborhood anchor for the gentrified/gentrifying Crestview area. Pre-1992 finds Jonathan and sharp-tongued but witty Lucretia Doyer running a small mobile sausage trailer on the edge of the parking lot; in 1992 they secured a spot on the south end of the strip, creating Little Deli. Known for sandwiches and soups and welcoming ways, Little Deli established itself as a neighborhood fixture. Cut to 2006, when friend, neighbor, and local chef (by way of Jersey and NOLA) Tony Villani buys the spot, adding a pizza kitchen in 2009. Rest easy, it's all just as good as it always was, just with good pizzas added.

The staff couldn't be any friendlier, and the eclectic music (Ella, Pretenders, Sinatra, Bob Wills, George Harrison, etc.) seduces you into a mellow mood. The space is small: six tables, plus more outside if weather allows. The website posts the soup menu for the month, and our tomato basil ($2.75/3.25) was divine: rich, thick, and tomato-y, with a kiss of basil and excellent toasted garlic croutons. We tried our standard review pizza, half Italian sausage and half plain (14" for $11.50, 17" for $13.50). The crust makes the pie, and Little Deli's is superb: crisp and lightly charred, thin, slightly chewy, and flavorful. The sausage is assertive, the cheese of high quality. If we had any comment, it would be that a bit more crushed tomato would have balanced the generous cheese.

Little Deli's popularity was built on great sandwiches. It bakes its own sandwich breads daily, which is reflected by the taste; also, all of the meats and cheeses are first-rate. The Vegetarian ($5.99) already made it into our 2009 Top 10 Sandwich list: avocado, artichoke hearts, roasted eggplant, mozzarella, Swiss, provolone, cheddar, onions, tomatoes, lettuce, tapenade, and Parmesan on a kaiser roll. The Muffalatta ($5.99) is Genoa salami, mortadella, ham, provolone, and tapenade, served on ciabatta bread (get it warmed). It would have benefited from some pickled veggie tartness, so next time I'll request some of the cherry pepper relish added on. The Italian Sub ($5.99) – salami, capicola, ham, pepperoni, provolone, onions, tomatoes, and lettuce, sprinkled with olive oil and red-wine vinegar – was delightful, but the hoagie roll was a tad past its prime.

The Reuben ($6.29), with lean corned beef, sauerkraut, and Swiss, with Thousand Island dressing on toasted rye, is one of the best in town, although a bit of fat in the corned beef would make it perfect. The Cheese Steak ($5.99) was the huge surprise. Delicious and authentic, it's made from thinly sliced grilled top round and melted provolone, served on a grilled hoagie roll, then topped with a delicious red cherry-pepper relish.

Many of the sandwiches can be ordered half-sized for $3.49; get that with a cup of soup and it's $5.79. Every other Thursday Little Deli does an authentic crawfish étouffée special ($8.95), and every other Wednesday plan on luscious homemade lasagna ($6.49, $7.49 with meatballs). Villani plans on adding Saturday to the schedule starting sometime in January, so check before you go.

When we left the last time, we were reminiscing about how every neighborhood used to have a small restaurant or cafe like this, and how sad that corporate fast food has displaced that local goodness we all used to love. But for the Crestview neighborhood anyway, fresh, delicious, affordable, local food lives on. *– Mick Vann*

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DOWNTOWN

AMERICAN CAFE: **J BLACK'S** Late-night bar-goers can satisfy their munchies here until midnight every night with some of the best bar food in the area. Plates made for sharing include hummus, shrimp cocktails, sliders, and pizza. ***710-B W. Sixth, 433-6954.*** **www.jblacks.com**. ***$$***

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: **JO'S HOT COFFEE** You'll find an array of pastries and breakfast tacos early, and later in the day, look for sandwiches, salads, burgers, and a few hot plates. ***242 W. Second, 469-9003.*** **www.joscoffee.com**. ***$***

BARBECUE: **LAMBERTS** Offering steaks, chops, seafood, and barbecue, this spot in the Second Street District caught on fast. That may have something to do with live music upstairs almost every night. ***401 W. Second, 494-1500.*** **www.lambertsaustin.com**. ***$$***

JAPANESE: **MAIKO** provides Japanese and fusion cuisine in a modern and swanky yet relaxed setting. Find standard sushi offerings, including *edomae* – Tokyo-style sushi – and some signature rolls. ***311 W. Sixth, 236-9888.*** **www.maikoaustin.com**. ***$$$***

KOREAN: **KORIENTE RESTAURANT & TEA HOUSE** The emphasis is on fresh, healthy food with minimum sugar, salt, and fat. This MSG-free zone offers gluten-free items as well. The spicy chicken bulgogi is a favorite of Downtown bartenders. ***621 E. Seventh, 275-0852.*** **www.koriente.com**. ***$$***

MEDITERRANEAN: **LOUIE'S 106** provides a crisp, elegant, multitiered setting for Austin's original tapas. The beautifully lit bar is the perfect place to make your move. ***106 E. Sixth, 476-1997.*** **www.louies106.net**. ***$$$***

SEAFOOD, TEX-MEX: **MARISCO GRILL** This place features a full Mexican menu in addition to the delicious seafood with a Mexican twist. ***211 E. Sixth, 474-7372. $$***

TEX-MEX: **COPA BAR & GRILL** This popular Latin dance club features drinks, eats, and live salsa and merengue on Fridays, as well as a Saturday DJ. ***217 Congress, 479-5002.*** **www.copabarandgrill.com**. ***$***

TEX-MEX: **IRON CACTUS MEXICAN GRILL & MARGARITA BAR** In addition to stacked enchiladas, the extensive menu offers hearty steak, chicken, and shrimp dishes treated with combinations of Southwestern and Interior Mexican spices. ***606 Trinity, 472-9240.*** **www.ironcactus.com**. ***$$***

EAST

AMERICAN CAFE: **CISCO'S** In the breakfast business for more than 50 years, Cisco's serves good migas, huevos rancheros, and hot biscuits with healthy doses of Austin political history. ***1511 E. Sixth, 478-2420. $***

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: **HOT MAMA'S ESPRESSO BAR** Grab a satisfying coffee drink, some homemade pastries, and a breakfast taco, and enjoy the lovely, tree-shaded patio. Mediterranean specialties, courtesy of Ararat, are available as well. ***2401 E. Sixth, 476-MAMA.*** **hotmamasaustin.com**. ***$***

BARBECUE: **DANNY'S BBQ** Just opened in the former Lewis Bar-B-Que location, Danny's carries on its own tradition with pork roast, ribs (and tips), chicken, brisket, and all your other favorites. ***1814 Harvey, 236-0858. $***

BURGER JOINT: **DAN'S HAMBURGERS** One of several burger outlets operated by Austin's hamburger king, Dan Junk, whose trademark has always been good, fresh food and friendly service. ***844 Airport, 385-2262. $***

INTERIOR MEXICAN, TEX-MEX: **LAS CAZUELAS** Look for a dozen egg dishes for early risers, as well as *machacado* and nopales, enchiladas *potosinas*, and plenty of Tex-Mex standards. ***1701 E. Cesar Chavez, 479-7911. $***

PIZZA: **PIZZERIA LA BOCA** Named for the Buenos Aires suburb of La Boca, this pizzeria serves gourmet calzones, pizzas, pastas, gnocchi, and homemade sausages. ***5706 Manor Rd. Ste. E, 933-9400.*** **www.labocapizza.com**. ***$***

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: **EAST SIDE SHOW ROOM** Look for upscale soul cooking like curried grits and greens, sweet pulled pork, and grass-fed short ribs. All ingredients are locally grown, and the condiments are all made in-house. ***1100 E. Sixth, 467-4280.*** **www.eastsideshowroom.com**. ***$$***

TEX-MEX: **MI MADRE'S RESTAURANT** Excellent Mexican food in a homey diner atmosphere. Quaint and comfortable and known for its breakfast tacos. ***2201 Manor Rd., 480-8441.*** **www.mimadresrestaurant.com**. ***$***

TEX-MEX: **NUEVO LEÓN** This cavernous, friendly restaurant offers cheap combination plates. It's decorated almost exclusively in pink and green and adorned with Texas-shaped mirrors and many Christmas lights. Serious date potential. ***1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097.*** **www.nuevoleoninaustin.com**. ***$$***

TEX-MEX: **TAQUERIA CHAPALA JALISCO** This taqueria features cheap breakfast specials and Jalisco-style barbacoa by the plate or pound. ***2101 E. Cesar Chavez, 320-0308. $$***

NORTH

CHINESE: **FORTUNE CHINESE SEAFOOD RESTAURANT** offers a 200-item Cantonese menu with all of your favorites, including dim sum. ***10901 N. Lamar, 490-1426.*** **www.fortuneaustin.com**. ***$$***

CHINESE: **SUPER CHINA** The old China Garden location still offers spiced-up standards that leave you red-faced and satisfied. It also has a daily lunch buffet. ***11657 Research #107, 527-8888. $$***

INDIAN: **SHALIMAR RESTAURANT** Pakistani food that's second to none and a *gosht karahi* that'll really get your goat. You can try the buffet, but it's even better to take a chance on the menu items. ***9310 N. Lamar, 719-3700.*** **www.shalimar-austin.com**. ***$$***

ITALIAN: **IT'S ITALIAN** Find a full menu of classic Italian meals, as well as weekend specials such as grilled rib-eye steak. ***14735 Bratton, 252-1444. $$***

JAPANESE: **SUSHI SAKE** This place takes its *sake* seriously, serving premium brands cold (as their makers intended). Don't miss the long sushi bar with some of the most beautiful fish in Austin. ***9503 Research #500, 527-0888. $$$***

KOREAN: **KOREAN GRILL** is a favorite for family nights out and is located in the Chinatown Center. ***10901 N. Lamar, #204, 339-0234. $$***

PAN-ASIAN: **CHON SOM** Go for the Thai curry or some sushi. The presentation is beautiful, and so are the prices. ***2013 Wells Branch Pkwy. #109, 989-5559.*** **www.chonsom.com**. ***$$***

THAI: **MUANGTHAI** means "land of the free" in Thai, so take the liberty here of ordering up lots of spicy salads, curries, and specialties like *tom yom ta-lay heang*, which we do not think was named after a politician. ***13945 Hwy. 183 N. Ste. C-80, 219-5999.*** **www.muangthaithaicuisine.com**. ***$$***

VIETNAMESE: **PHO SAIGON NOODLE HOUSE** Is it soup yet? This pho is aromatic and delicious. Don't forget to try the char-grilled meats on vermicelli or rice. ***10901 N. Lamar Ste. A-108, 821-1022.*** **www.phosaigonnoodlehouse.com**. ***$$***

VIETNAMESE: **TAN MY** Many are adamant that this place, located in the shadow of Target, has the very best pho in town. Bring cash, and try the Bun Bo Hue. ***1601 Ohlen Ste. E, 832-9585. $***

NORTH CENTRAL

BURGER JOINT: **BURGER TEX** Build your own burger at this longtime no-frills restaurant, or try the chicken-fried steak. ***5420 Airport, 453-8772.*** **www.burgertex.com**. ***$***

INTERIOR MEXICAN: **SAGO MODERN MEXICAN RESTAURANT** A unique approach to both Tex-Mex and Interior Mexican cuisine with options such as *achiote*-grilled shrimp with avocado and pumpkin seeds, plus a fantastic brunch. ***4600 W. Guadalupe Ste. B-5, 452-0300.*** **www.sagomodernmexican.com**. ***$$***

ITALIAN: **CARRABBA'S ITALIAN GRILL** Order from the pasta bar, sample one of the wood-fired pizzas, or choose a grilled specialty. The menu also includes requisite manicotti, lasagna, and spaghetti options. ***6406 N. I-35, 419-1220.*** **www.carrabbas.com**. ***$$$***

JAPANESE, KOREAN: **KIMCHI SUSHI** This simply decorated Lincoln Village sushi bar also features a menu of Korean favorites. ***6406 N. I-35 #2343, 453-4111. $$***

PAN-ASIAN: **MAMA FU'S ASIAN HOUSE AT THE TRIANGLE** Drop by this chain to eat in or take out; the ingredients are fresh, and the service is great. ***4615 N. Lamar #307, 637-6773.*** **www.mamafusaustin.com**. ***$$***

PIZZA: **THE PARLOR HYDE PARK** The jukebox may be different, but expect the same fresh, innovative pizzas at this outpost of the popular spot on North Loop. ***4301-B Guadalupe, 323-0440.*** **www.theparloraustin.com**. ***$***

SEAFOOD: **CAPT. BENNY'S SEAFOOD** offers a full range of both fried and broiled seafood in the boat formerly occupied by the Captain's Seafood & Oyster Bar. ***5700 N. I-35, 452-1417.*** **www.captbennys.com**. ***$$***

TEX-MEX: **TAMALE HOUSE** An Airport Boulevard institution, T-House offers authentic, no-frills Tex-Mex. Pull up a chair on the sunbaked concrete and forget about tamales; they are not on the menu. ***5003 Airport, 453-9842.*** **www.myspace.com/tamalehouse**. ***$***

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: **MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN** A welcoming vegetarian refuge since 1979, the meatless menu is a mix of Southern and Tex-Mex and includes a selection of soups, salads, and heartier fare. ***4215 Duval St., 451-3994.*** **www.motherscafeaustin.com**. ***$$***

SOUTH

AMERICAN CAFE: **FREDDIE'S PLACE** Go there for burgers, chicken-fried steak, Frito pie, chili-cheese dogs, nachos, barbecue, homemade desserts, and a full bar. Great deck and backyard area in an old oak grove. ***1703 S. First, 445-9197.*** **www.freddiesplaceaustin.com**. ***$$***

AMERICAN CAFE: **SOMNIO'S CAFE** places heavy emphasis on local, organic vegetables, as well as free-range, grass-fed, pastured, and hormone-free meat. ***1807 S. First, 442-2500.*** **www.somnioscafe.com**. ***$$***

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: **LA MEXICANA BAKERY** Well-known for its wide selection of inexpensive *pan dulces*, empanadas, and *galletas*. If your sweet tooth needs a root canal, try something from the taqueria. ***1924 S. First, 443-6369.*** **www.la-mexicana-bakery.com**. ***$***

BRAZILIAN: **ESTÂNCIA CHURRASCARÍA** This locally owned Brazilian steak house boasts a relaxed, fine-dining atmosphere and the only Brazilian wine list in town. ***4894 Hwy. 290 W., 892-1225.*** **www.estanciachurrascaria.com**. ***$$***

INDIAN: **INDIA KITCHEN** Keep going back for the buffet, but try some things off the menu and you'll find Indian food for the aficionado. The tandoor-baked breads may be the best in town. ***2410 E. Riverside, 448-7773.*** **www.indiakitchenofaustin.com**. ***$***

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in print

INGRID BERGMAN (GREAT STARS) HUMPHREY BOGART (GREAT STARS) GARY COOPER (GREAT STARS) BETTE DAVIS (GREAT STARS)

by David Thomson

Faber and Faber Inc., $14 each (paper)

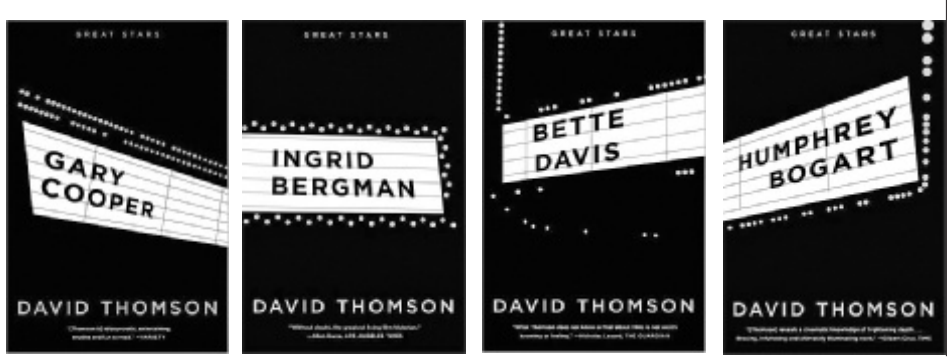
First of all, to clear up any confusion: David Thomson, the British film historian, should not be mistaken for David M. Thompson, the British film and TV producer, or David Thompson, the mass-market adventure writer, or even David Bordwell, the renowned film theorist who writes standard-bearer film school texts with his wife, Kristin Thompson. There's just the one David Thomson – you know, the one who wrote the invaluable *The New Biographical Dictionary of Film*, now in its fourth edition – but you could hardly be faulted for wondering if Thomson had cracked the nut on human cloning or was perhaps running a small sweatshop of writer drones in his basement: How else to explain his astonishing output? In just the last two years, he's produced, in addition to regular columns for the UK's *Guardian*, the chatty *Have You Seen...?: A Personal Introduction to 1,000 Films*; a memoir, *Try to Tell the Story*; and November's book-length study *The Moment of Psycho: How Alfred Hitchcock Taught America to Love Murder*. He waited all of five days to put his stamp on 2010 with these four slim new releases, first published this summer in England and part of (one hopes) an ongoing Great Stars series.

The series is trim in scope, page count (the longest tops off at 144 pages), and even design; each book could fit in a roomy pocket. As the leading lights of their era, the stars tend to have walk-on parts in one another's books, which makes sense, since so often they were partnered, onscreen and in bed. It appears there were very few stars Cooper didn't double-bill in the boudoir with, although Davis managed to avoid it. Then again, if she'd won the hard-fought part of Scarlett O'Hara and he'd landed Rhett Butler (shudder to think, but David O. Selznick seriously considered him), there's a good chance that distinction would have been gone with the wind.

The books follow the same schema as Thomson's *Biographical Dictionary*: a chronological dispatching of the star's filmography with a dash of character psychology. He diagnoses Bergman's film choices, for instance, as the product of a gravitational pull toward self-punishing parts: "[S]omething in the noble Ingrid craved being degraded, or brought close to ruin – anything that would require long, painful moral rehabilitation." Meanwhile the case for (or, more often, against) Cooper comes down to his clothes fetish and obsessive cocksmanship (Thomson rather lingers on what was, legend has it, an especially fine piece of equipment). "Gary Cooper was not the brightest soul, not the most intelligent or steadfast man," Thomson writes in closing. "He could be weak, timid, self-indulgent, a snob, lazy, indifferent, an opportunist. None of which ever stopped him looking like Gary Cooper." Unfortunately the book is too short, and its purpose too precise, to explore anything more than the outsider's perspective of Cooper's famous good looks; one is left wondering how Cooper himself felt about looking so good, or if he worried that was all his legacy would amount to.

There are small annoyances: Thomson likes to reimagine the plots of films to suit his tastes (as with Davis' poorly aged women's pictures) and wastes time with what-ifs (as in, what if Bergman had played *Streetcar Named Desire*? Easy: Blanche DuBois' honey drawl would've tasted a lot like Swedish meatball). And, as anyone who's ever wanted to throw the *New Biographical Dictionary* against the wall knows, Thomson can be infuriating with his cut-downs and flat dismissals.

Still, a more formidable film scholar you'd be hard-pressed to find, and beyond that, it's simply a joy to read his writing, so witty and articulate and tart. Tender, too: He writes most affectionately about Bogart, the supposed toughie with a soft heart who ended his days so ravaged by cancer he moved between floors in his home's dumbwaiter. Of *High Sierra*, Thomson writes, "There it is, the Bogart snarl, the willingness to put himself on a plate, like a cooked sausage, grinning at the mustard." How delicious is that? – *Kimberley Jones*





Jeff Bridges (l) and Ryan Bingham in *Crazy Heart*

CROSSOVER ARTIST

Rocker Ryan Bingham on his 'Crazy Heart' acting debut and Golden Globe songwriting nod

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

"Yes, ma'am," musician Ryan Bingham drawls with what seems a mixture of pride, amusement, and humility when I ask him on the phone if he's planning on attending the Golden Globes later this month. His song, "The Weary Kind," the theme song for the film *Crazy Heart* starring Jeff Bridges, is nominated for a Golden Globe. Bingham, an Austin music mainstay with his band the Dead Horses, is a rising national star who not only composed the theme song for writer/director Scott Cooper's music-centric film, but also performs onscreen in an early pivotal scene.

Bingham, who has no previous film credits to his name, explains how this breakthrough came to pass. "It started with a friend of mine, an agent at CAA [Creative Artists Agency] named Jack Whigham. He had been sending things of mine around to different people. Scott Cooper, the director of *Crazy Heart*, had gotten a hold of some of my songs and called me up one day. I went and had lunch with him, and he told me about this movie he was working on and gave me a script to see if I might be interested in coming up with some music for it. I started writing songs, and we kind of went from there."

Bridges has also been racking up award nominations for his performance as the fading country music star Otis "Bad" Blake, whose boozing and profligacy have steered his career and personal life down a road of diminishing returns. Bridges, as always, creates a memorable character whose appearance and stage manner calls to mind an unholy blend of Kris Kristofferson and Waylon Jennings. He plays guitar and sings the songs himself, as does Colin Farrell, who puts in an unbilled appearance as the protégé whose success has eclipsed that of his mentor, Bad Blake. The veracity of the performances and the tunes are essential to this movie's outcome. The songs had to be good enough to make the viewer believe in Blake's musicianship, believe that he is – or, at least, once *was* – a songsmith of the highest caliber. Bringing aboard industry legend T Bone Burnett as the film's co-producer and music composer was a seriously smart move on the filmmakers' part.

Aside from Bingham's contributions, all the original music for *Crazy Heart* was written by Burnett and his old friend and Austin music luminary Stephen Bruton. As production was wrapping on the film in late May, Bruton died in Los Angeles of cancer, and *Crazy Heart* is inscribed with a final dedication to his memory. Says Burnett in the press notes: Stephen "was fighting a difficult battle the entire time we were working. He co-wrote most of the songs, played a lot of the score, coached the actors, and was on the set the entire shoot to make sure things were real. I think there is a lot of Stephen in Bad Blake. Stephen had lived that same life – in the extreme." Bingham, however, knew neither Burnett nor Bruton before submitting his tune for consideration. He had been invited over to their house and played them this new song he had written. "Right from the beginning, as soon as they got it, they were saying this was the one they wanted to use," recalls Bingham. "Making 'The Weary Kind' the theme song was T Bone and Stephen's decision."

Bingham's on-camera work came about almost as effortlessly. "My band was playing in Los Angeles, and Scott Cooper and a couple other people in the film came out to the show," Bingham explains. "After they heard us play, they went, 'You guys would just be perfect for that scene in the movie [when Bad plays with a pickup band in a New Mexico bowling alley],' and wanted to know if the whole band would be interested in doing it." With Oscar nominations still a few weeks off and *Crazy Heart* still debuting across the country, it's likely that Ryan Bingham's film career is just taking off. ■

Crazy Heart *opens in Austin today, Jan. 8. See Film Listings, p.58, for review.*


Ajami

Neorealism, Now and Then, in Troubled Lands

AFS Essential Cinema: Children of Abraham/Ibrahim 4

BY JOSH ROSENBLATT

It's hard to believe it's been three years since the Austin Film Society premiered its first Middle Eastern film program, Children of Abraham/Ibrahim, as part of the Essential Cinema series. Yet here we are, three years older, and here AFS is, with a fourth batch of movies to screen, while over there, Jews, Muslims, and Christians are three years deeper into a 1,500-year-old calamity of violence and inherited hatred that's starting to look like it really won't be resolved until Judgment Day.

Thankfully, human beings have a remarkable capacity for turning pain into poetry, and sometimes the upside to great tragedy is great art. Two films from this year's slate – the once-banned 1958 film *Cairo Station* and *Ajami*, which was released last year and promptly swept the Ophir Awards, the Israeli equivalent to the Academy Awards – are proof of that truism. Both are masterpieces that, like all great social art, speak to and transcend their eras. In *Cairo Station*, the setting is 1950s Egypt, a time when an ancient religious society was struggling to adapt to a rapidly changing world of commerce, opportunity, and social mobility. *Ajami*, meanwhile, takes place in present-day Jaffa, a crime-ridden, drug-infested, multicultural section of Tel Aviv that harbors both age-old grudges and all the mayhem of a modern major metropolis; imagine Detroit transplanted to Rwanda.

At the heart of these two movies, and at the heart of the region they come from, lie intractable dualities. Tradition vs. modernity. Society vs. the individual. Religion vs. compromise. In *Cairo Station*, about Egypt's marginalized urban poor, an ancient caste system is under attack by the forces of commercialism, capitalism, and a new rock & roll youth mentality. An impoverished, crippled newspaper peddler named Kenaoui (played by the director, Youssef Chahine) falls in love with a voluptuous but cruel lemonade seller named Hanouma (Hind Rostom) who works at the same train station he does. Overcome by his obsession, Kenaoui grows more and more desperate, until his scorned desires turn murderous. Meanwhile, Hanouma's handsome fiancé fights to unionize his fellow train porters, provoking the ire of those who refuse to accommodate the demands of a changing, secularizing world.

Nominated for the Golden Bear at the 1958 Berlin International Film Festival, Chahine's movie introduced neorealism to a region that until that point had known mainly gaudy musicals, but its provocative take on human sexuality, its acknowledgement of the influence of Western capitalism and culture, and its unblinking exploration of social ills led the Egyptian government to ban it from theatres for nearly 20 years. According to censorship laws of the time, "the inordinate emphasis of erotic parts" and the depiction of "social problems as hopeless" were strictly forbidden. Without wading too deep into the politics or morality of censoring film, one has to admit that with a hero like Kenaoui, whose hopelessness is nearly impossible to measure, and a heroine like Hanouma, who is pretty much one large erotic part, *Cairo Station* was practically begging to be banned. And what better reason could there be to go see a movie?

I don't know if Israeli writer/directors Scandar Copti and Yaron Shani have seen *Cairo Station* or, if they have, whether it affected the way they shot *Ajami*, but there's no doubting that their movie owes Chahine's an enormous debt. If *Cairo Station* opened the door to socially conscious neorealist film in the Middle East, then *Ajami* has shot it off its hinges.

Like *City of God*, *Amores Perros*, and *Gomorrah*, *Ajami* is the story of a violent ecosystem where seemingly unrelated characters collide in unexpected and often tragic ways. The film revolves around the lives of three beautifully drawn but irredeemably damaged characters: the first, an Arab Israeli who resorts to criminal means to come up with the money to pay off the gangsters threatening his family; the second, a Palestinian who works illegally in Israel while trying to find a way to pay for his mother's bone marrow operation; the third, a Jewish Israeli policeman coming to grips with the murder of his brother and that realization that the streets he patrols are being lost to the casual violence of the drug trade. Watching their separate collapses dovetail is like watching the whole sordid, inevitable, pathetic story of modern Israel play out writ small.

In *Ajami*'s interlocking, Balzac-like world where family, tradition, tribalism, revenge, and history weigh like a thousand-pound stone on the backs of the living, the possibility for redemption is slim, nearly nonexistent. But the film doesn't succumb to despair, even when its characters do. On the contrary, it is so full of life as to almost transcend the boundaries of its historical context. I say "almost" because when you're trying to find redemption in Israel, that's the most you can reasonably hope for. More than that and you're dooming yourself to 1,500 more years of disappointment. ■


Three Monkeys

AFS ESSENTIAL CINEMA CHILDREN OF ABRAHAM/IBRAHIM 4

The series runs Tuesdays at 7pm at the Alamo Drafthouse South Lamar. Admission is free for AFS members and $6 for nonmembers. For more info, visit **www.austinfilm.org**.

Jan. 12: ***Cairo Station*** (D: Youssef Chahine, 1958) / "Cairo as Seen by Chahine" (D: Youssef Chahine, 1991)
Jan. 19: ***The Land (Al-ard)*** (D: Youssef Chahine, 1969)
Jan. 26: **Laila's Birthday** (D: Rashid Masharawi, 2008)
Feb. 2: ***Son of a Lion*** (D: Benjamin Gilmour, 2007)
Feb. 9: ***Ajami*** (D: Scandar Copti and Yaron Shani, 2009)
Feb. 16: ***Three Monkeys*** (*Uc Maymun*) (D: Nuri Bilge Ceylan, 2008)

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Life Unexpected

Family Matters

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

Oh, it all seems so quaint now. Back in the day, when George Burns and Gracie Allen were the most adorable married couple on TV, followed by Lucy and Ricky Ricardo, and then Rob and Laura Petrie, the televised idea of love and marriage and parenthood was so pristine. Married couples on TV didn't touch each other beyond chaste kisses and hugs above the waist. Heck, it wasn't even until Mike and Carol Brady that a married couple was shown sharing the same bed – albeit, a very large, king-sized bed with yards of fluffy comforter between them – but it marked a change from the norm of showing married couples bunking in his-and-hers single beds.

It wasn't until the 1970s and '80s that you got a broader idea of domestic life, including the previously unspoken topics of divorce and pregnancies out of wedlock (the so-called "bastard" child – do people use that language anymore?). These topics were broached under the "a very special episode" banner and often featured the poor, the ghettoized (e.g., people of color), and women of questionable virtue.

tv eye

Fast-forward to 2007 with *Juno*, and all of a sudden, being knocked up is discussed with, well, not exactly a light touch, but not nearly the sense of shame as in the past. Now, with TV's low-rent *Knocked Up* knock-off, the **Jenna Elfman** vehicle *Accidentally on Purpose*, not only is the unwed mother continuing with her life as usual, but with a laugh track to remind us that it's not rocket science – it's just pregnancy (she said sarcastically).

I was thinking of all this history of being knocked up, on and off the TV screen, when I was watching the first three episodes of the new CW series ***Life Unexpected***. In this series, we have a young girl named Lux (**Brittany Robertson**), the product of a backseat romp during a school dance. She's in search of her birth parents – not because she is longing to be reunited with them, but because she is seeking emancipation from the foster system she's been in since she was 3. At 16, she is dying to take her life in her own hands. She couldn't do any worse, she figures. And by the trail of irresponsible adults she left behind, it's quickly determined that she is probably right.

Some dangling piece of legal business was left undone in the past, and all Lux needs is their signatures to gain her emancipation. Yeah, that stretches the imagination a little. But this niggling detail is easy to ignore because the larger premise of the series is so tantalizing: What would it be like if we could revisit those big crossroads moments for our teenage selves and do things differently – or at least better – in the present? What have our present selves learned from the past, and more importantly for the premise of *Life Unexpected*, how are we the same?

It would be easy to write off *Life Unexpected* as just another soapy young adult drama, but for all its narrative flaws, it has some real heart. Although the circumstances are very contemporary, the idea that family – finding it, loving it, being driven nuts by it – is at the core of this new drama is really very comfortingly quaint.

Life Unexpected premieres Jan. 18 at 8pm on the CW.

WHAT ELSE IS ON?

On Jan. 12, KLRU will air ***Young@Heart***, a documentary about a choir of elders (with an average age of 81) singing rock tunes. If the idea of senior citizens singing **Sonic Youth** tunes makes you roll your eyes as being something much too precious to endure, rest assured that not only will this documentary surprise you, it will delight and make you look at all seniors in a new light. The film is unexpectedly buoyant and touching and funny in all the right ways. If you missed *Young@Heart* during its 2008 appearance at South by Southwest, now's your chance to view it in the comfort of your living room. Not to be missed.

Follow TV Eye on Twitter: @ChronicleTVEye.

E-mail Belinda Acosta at **tveye@austinchronicle.com**.



KLRU celebrates the arts with this special focusing on Austin-area choirs.
InContext: Voices of Light features a diverse lineup that illustrates that regardless of differences, the desire to express the experience of life through music is a common goal.

January 11 at 8 p.m. klru

This project is funded and supported in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division.

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MUSIC POLL BALLOT

After 29 years, you know the drill: This is your chance to duct-tape the critics' mouths shut and speak up about Austin music. Not sure whom to vote for? Turn on the radio, drop by the local record store, or head to the clubs. Your favorite band is probably playing.

AUSTIN BAND OF THE YEAR:

AUSTIN MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR:

AUSTIN SONG OF THE YEAR:

AUSTIN ALBUM OF THE YEAR:

BEST NEW AUSTIN BAND:

Best Performing Bands

ROCK:

PUNK:

METAL:

INDUSTRIAL/GOTH:

HIP-HOP/DJ:

INDIE:

JAZZ:

BLUES:

INSTRUMENTAL:

EXPERIMENTAL:

COUNTRY/BLUEGRASS:

ROOTS ROCK:

FOLK:

LATIN TRADITIONAL:

LATIN ROCK:

WORLD MUSIC:

COVER BAND:

U18 (MAJORITY OF MEMBERS UNDER 18):

NONE OF THE ABOVE:

Best Austin Musicians (BAND IF APPLICABLE)

FEMALE VOCALS:

MALE VOCALS:

ELECTRIC GUITAR:

ACOUSTIC GUITAR:

BASS:

DRUMS/PERCUSSION:

KEYBOARDS:

MISCELLANEOUS INSTRUMENT:

SONGWRITER:

PRODUCER (PRODUCER NAME, ALBUM TITLE):

Related Categories

NEW CLUB:

LIVE MUSIC VENUE:

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ALL-AGES VENUE:

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RADIO MUSIC PROGRAM (SHOW, DEEJAY, STATION):

RADIO PERSONALITY (SHOW, DEEJAY, STATION):

LOCAL LABEL:

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Cherubs
Shiva's Headband
Arc Angels
Sixteen Deluxe

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*

Off the Record Returns Next Week **40** Music Poll Ballot **68** Music Listings

Naked If I Want To

Moby Grape then and now

BY LOUIS BLACK



Moby Grape Personnel

Skip Spence: rhythm guitar, vocals
Don Stevenson: drums, vocals
Bob Mosley: bass, vocals
Peter Lewis: rhythm guitar, vocals
Jerry Miller: lead guitar, vocals

'Moby Grape,' the Album

"Hey Grandma" (Miller/Stevenson)
"Mr. Blues" (Mosley)
"Fall on You" (Lewis)
"8:05" (Miller/Stevenson)
"Come in the Morning" (Mosley)
"Omaha" (Spence)
"Naked, If I Want To" (Miller)
"Someday" (Miller/Spence/Stevenson)
"Ain't No Use" (Miller/Stevenson)
"Sitting by the Window" (Lewis)
"Changes" (Miller/Stevenson)
"Lazy Me" (Mosley)
"Indifference" (Spence)

Producer: David Rubinson
Label: Columbia Records
Dates: Recorded March-April 1967; released June 1967

The tale of San Francisco's Moby Grape has become one of the great tragic fables of rock & roll, assuming almost Orson Welles proportions in terms of vast creative loss. Both Welles and Moby Grape came out of the gate at full speed; both produced a first release that reached an aesthetic height rarely achieved. But this accomplishment, rather than an opening benediction to a long career, became an impediment in that it was not only never matched again, but it also became a standard used to judge subsequent work disparagingly.

There were a number of years during which the music coming out of San Francisco was one of the most important forces in American music. Bands began forming by the mid-1960s, but it wasn't until 1967 that the S.F. scene went from rumor to reality to myth.

Moby Grape consisted of five singer-songwriter musicians who, after getting together in autumn 1966, spent the next couple of months just practicing. When the band finally began to play clubs, it soon became one of the most popular area acts. In March 1967 the group cut its eponymous debut, *Moby Grape*, released in June that year to glowing press. The band, however, was hindered by missteps made by its record company.

The label overhyped the band and the album so much that it invited ridicule and derision rather than positive attention. This was just the beginning, as almost anything that could hurt the album did. The band only survived a few years, with members coming and going so that by the last of the four original albums Moby Grape was a trio.

This tragic interpretation still sounds rote and hackneyed. There's this one great album and a number of other terrific records that were recorded and released. There are also the five guys who joined a band and mostly didn't know one another, yet they continued playing together in different combinations for the rest of their lives. The four remaining members still jam on occasion. They're bonded in a very special way. Is there a moral to this story? Maybe there is and maybe not. Regardless, there's this one truly great album.

Moby Grape, one of the very first albums I bought, has stayed in regular rotation on my playlist ever since. Right off I liked it, but when I became a freshman in college a year later, my friend Alan taught me to love it.

CONTINUED ON P.42

***Moby Grape* was released during that astonishing time for rock music between the early 1960s and early 1970s. This was when rock mutated from basic rock & roll into something far more complex and ambitious.**







Legendary Grape: Onetime (and longtime) Warner Bros./Reprise Records publicist and *Austin Sun* music scholar Bill Bentley, who produced 1999 Skip Spence tribute *More Oar: A Tribute to the Skip Spence Album*, once said of Moby Grape's debut that its only flaw is that it's perfect. (Check Bentley's website, www.sonicboomers.com.) The LP art timeline that follows traces the group's discography in order (see "Page Two," p.4), including a collection of compilations beginning with 1973's initial *Great Grape*.

Often toward the end of a party, when the earliest light of dawn was beginning to seep through curtained windows, I'd put *Moby Grape* on the turntable. Turning it up to maximum volume, I'd drop the needle onto "Hey Grandma," the first track. The buzz saw guitar at the beginning of the song would rip through the room, house, and neighborhood. Inevitably, if any guests still remaining were guitarists, they'd ask me to turn it up even louder.

There is no particular reason for this piece at this time. There's no new box set being released or a lot of unreleased material suddenly discovered and available. A while back the four albums officially released by the band were reissued (see "Reissues," Dec. 14, 2007). Almost immediately the band's four-decades-old feud and marathon legal battle with original manager Matthew Katz took *Moby Grape* and *Wow/Grape Jam* out of print. There are several excellent compilations.

Any serious conversation regarding American popular music of the last half-century has to begin with a discussion of silence. Not exactly in the same sense that John Cage composed *Silence*. (NRBQ recorded it, but cut it down to two minutes.) Instead, silence as the backdrop and contest. If anything, as much as American life, media and communication technology have changed the nature of silence. It's not what it was 50 years ago.

Listen My Friends

Moby Grape was released during that astonishing time for rock music between the early 1960s and early 1970s. This was when rock mutated from basic rock & roll into something far more complex and ambitious. Much of this change came about because the many different music genres being listened to were incorporated into rock. It wasn't just genre mixing. It was disregard for any kind of classification with defined boundaries.

This massive cross-fertilization was dependent on and caused by the extensive musical knowledge of the musicians as well as the expertise of so many of them in a variety of genres. How did this come about? Music by Robert Johnson, Dock Boggs, Memphis Minnie, Jimmie Rodgers, Woody Guthrie, Hank Williams, Bessie Smith, and Bob Willis among so many others was available on recordings. Except they weren't easy to find in the 1950s, when most of this generation of rockers came of age. In many cases there were only a limited number of records pressed and distributed.

It was a time of AM Top 40 radio featuring limited playlists with only a few FM free-form radio stations in the nation. Since only a few musicians, at best, had access to significant libraries of music, most of them just played the records they could find over and over.

The nature of silence and access to music has completely changed how music is consumed. Just a few decades back, listening to music required an effort, as the ways to hear it were by listening to the radio, attending live performances, and playing records. What the radio played and bands' touring schedules were both out of the listeners' control. The only way to hear the music one wanted when one wanted was by playing records.

When *Moby Grape* was released, albums were very much the standard. Music was criticized, categorized, purchased, collected, cataloged, and chronologically divided by albums. This was before there were 8-tracks in cars or Walkmans, much less the Internet, downloading, iPods, music festivals, extensive rock music media, and rock on TV (except for a few variety shows); forget dedicated channels or a constant soundtrack presence on commercials and shows.

Moby Grape synthesizes so many different forms and genres into music where the original strands are not obvious enough to be easily color-coded. The end result is Moby Grape rock; to label it otherwise as folk-, country-, blues-, psychedelic-, or bluegrass-rock or to try to divine the threads and influences is to demean it.

Accessing music is totally different now, most of it regularly available without much in the way of restrictions. Concurrently, most forms of communication – computers, phones – also serve as portals for music. The technological advances of the last decades have changed the very natures of media and interpersonal communication. Now music is mostly listened to as free-floating songs downloaded online, with albums no longer of much value or consequence.

Changes (Changes)

San Francisco was a key location in the lifestyle revolution and generational changes that took place during the 1960s. The Bay Area, long home to alternative lifestyles, was an incubator for the imaginations, thinking, and philosophies of people more interested in looking forward than backward. Music, one of the most important sources of these communities' senses of identity, was also the best way of conveying these new ideas to the outside world. The bands, their stories, records, and music were of an importance that is hard to explain or understand now. Even the names of the groups conveyed mystery – Jefferson Airplane, Quicksilver Messenger Service, the Grateful Dead, and, of course, Moby Grape.

By the mid-1960s, "San Francisco" had become a term signifying an "other" way of life from what was considered normal America. The city's lifestyles and ideologies were seen as being in opposition (and reaction) to what the "United States" had come to mean – a monolithic nation with a strongly established interlocking set of ideological, economic, social, political, and cultural ideals. The San Francisco lifestyle, centered on expanding consciousness and alternative ways of living, abandoned accepted structures and established traditions.

It was an exotic world with an endless variety of unique looks (long hair, tie-dye, face-painting, psychedelic posters), smells (patchouli oil, incense, marijuana), tastes (brown rice, wholegrain, wok-cooked, no sugar), and lodgings (tepees, Buckminister Fuller domes). A world of different beliefs (American Indian and Eastern religious beliefs) and health supplements (drugs, meditation, and alternative medicinal ideas). Not even distantly linked to suburban American values, its sensibility was pure outlaw, with conformity and personal gain rejected in favor of personal growth and the general good.

More than a specific rock style or overall sound, the "San Francisco Sound" had more to do with the sensibilities and lifestyles of the bands and communities than it did with a shared sound (experience "The San Francisco Sound," Dec. 7, 2007).

The year 1967 kicked off with the Human Be-In: Pow-Wow: A Gathering of the Tribes, Jan. 14, 1967, at the Polo Grounds in Golden Gate Park. Twenty thousand people came together to







enjoy a free concert featuring most of the best-known S.F. bands, including the Airplane, Quicksilver Messenger Service, Big Brother & the Holding Company, the Sir Douglas Quintet, and Country Joe & the Fish. There were guest speakers as well, including Timothy Leary famously urging the audience to turn on, tune in, and drop out for the first time. Allen Ginsberg chanted as Owsley Stanley handed out hits of acid and Dick Gregory and Jerry Rubin preached politics. The crowd, filled with hippies, freaks, and flower children, also counted both the diggers and Hells Angels, each there to help in their own way.

The first major, highly regarded S.F. acts to break into national consciousness were Jefferson Airplane and the Grateful Dead. Interestingly this was not via their music, which had yet to be heard, but rather through national news stories

Jefferson Airplane was part of the scene almost from the beginning. In early 1965, Marty Balin decided to start a band. Soon after he was at a club when a "weird looking guy" carrying two instrument cases entered. Balin gave up his spot on the bill to the newcomer. "He started to play," recalls Balin, "and then just stopped. He said 'I can't do this.'" As Paul Kantner walked off stage, Balin approached him to ask if he wanted to help start a band.

Bass player Bob Harvey and drummer Jerry Peloquin soon joined, as did singer Signe Toly Anderson. One afternoon Balin was sitting around in Kantner's apartment thinking that in order to really rock the band needed a great guitar player. Just then Jorma Kaukonen, having finished giving a guitar lesson upstairs, wandered by and was recruited by Balin.

Soon the Airplane began to play clubs, quickly attracting a large following. When drummer Peloquin left the band, Balin went looking for a replacement. Across the room at a coffeehouse he saw Skip Spence. Liking not only the way he looked but his vibe, Balin asked him to join the band. Spence was a guitarist, not a drummer, though he soon became one. Signed to RCA, this was the lineup of the band that recorded debut LP *Jefferson Airplane Takes Off*, released in August 1966.

Spence not only played drums but contributed two songs to the album. Toward the end of the recording sessions, however, he disappeared, so Spencer Dryden was brought on to replace him as drummer. Jack Casady, an old friend of Kaukonen's, was hired to play bass after the band fired Harvey. When singer Anderson was asked to leave the band, Grace Slick was lured away from her band the Great Society to replace her. This rounded out the lineup of the Airplane that soon would carry it to fame and fortune. Slick proved crucial to that success not only because of her extraordinary voice, but because she brought along with her two songs, her own "White Rabbit" and her former brother-in-law Darby Slick's "Somebody to Love."

Released February 1967, *Surrealistic Pillow*, the band's second album, proved a phenomenal success, peaking at No. 3 on the Top 100 list while producing two Top 10 hit singles, "White Rabbit" and "Somebody to Love." This success resulted in national media attention on both the band and the scene exploding exponentially. Soon the other S.F. bands went from just being heard about to finally having their music actually heard.

If the Human Be-In was the scene's kickoff, the Monterey Pop Festival, held June 16-18, 1967, was its coming-of-age. Again, most of the main S.F. groups played, including the Airplane, the Dead, Quicksilver, the Steve Miller Band, Country Joe & the Fish, Moby Grape, and Big Brother. The festival, according to Geoffrey Stokes in *Rock of Ages*, worked for "the mostly unrecorded San Francisco bands … who proved they could hold the stage as equals with the festival's certified stars."

Big Brother & the Holding Company, featuring Janis Joplin, blew everyone away, resulting in Albert Grossman becoming the band's manager and CBS Records President Clive Davis signing them. The Grateful Dead was signed to Warner Bros. in 1966, and Quicksilver Messenger Service landed a lucrative record deal from the festival, while the Steve Miller Band was signed to Capitol for an unprecedented $50,000 advance.

These songs out of a brave new culture are most often on traditional topics. Although obviously they're tied to San Francisco, they're not restricted by it. As firmly as they are set in the time in which they were written, the contrast between verses and choruses endow them with a timelessness not moored to any particular period.

Following Monterey, the last half of 1967 saw a flurry of releases by San Francisco bands. Concurrent with the festival, *Moby Grape* was launched. Big Brother released its first album on Mainstream Records in November 1967. It wasn't until the following year when Columbia released the single "Piece of My Heart" in August and the album *Cheap Thrills* in September that the band hit the charts. When that happened, it hit big as the album went to No. 1.

Country Joe & the Fish's first album, *Electric Music for the Mind and Body*, was released in April 1967, with the eponymous *Grateful Dead* having come out a month earlier. Although the Dead had already begun attracting large audiences to its live performances, for a long time the band was more famous than successful. It wasn't until *Workingman's Dead* in June 1970, soon followed by *American Beauty* in November, that the band began to sell albums. Quicksilver Messenger Service didn't come out with an album until May 1968, at which time singer and songwriter Dino Valenti was in jail.

Lifestyle has always been a critical part of the cultural packaging of film, music, and art. Interestingly, new culture usually spreads from its source city outward at its own pace. Frequently when it achieves widespread impact and attracts media attention, it has changed significantly in the place it originated. The last half of 1967 saw the music of many San Francisco bands being available and listened to across the country. In the city, however, the Summer of Love in all its meanings was declared over in October with a mock funeral for the death of the hippie held in the Haight.

What's This Song You're Bringing?

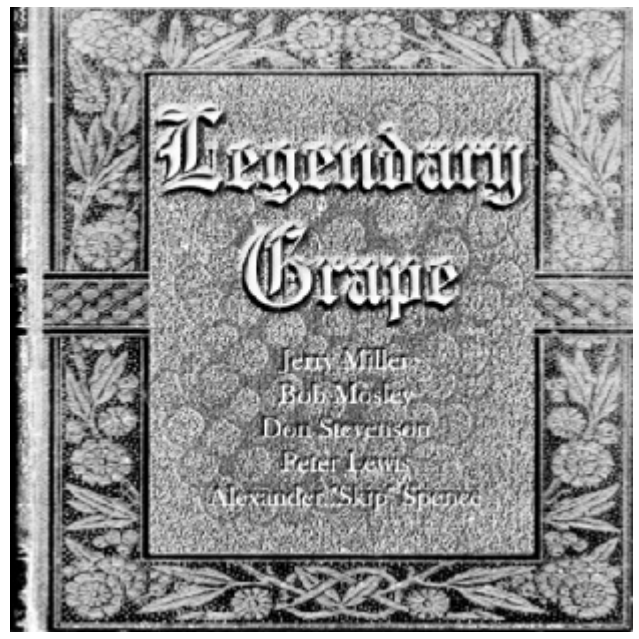
The exact origin of Moby Grape is a bit foggy, with some histories having the band recruited by manager Matthew Katz in a street hip parallel of how the Monkees came together. One version of this has Katz finding Jerry Miller, Don Stevenson, and Bob Mosley first, then Peter Lewis, and finally Spence. Others claim that it was Spence alone who started the band or else it came together more naturally. The version that rings truest is that Katz, who had also managed Jefferson Airplane, knew Spence, so together they decided to build a band around him. This is most likely the accurate version, though it's mentioned only with regret in that it bestows so much credit on Katz, the band's nemesis.

When the band members first came together in the fall of 1966, they didn't really know one another. Way too much has been made of this given that at the beginning of so many bands the musicians come together as relative strangers. What's notable is that they've continued to play together in one configuration or another, up to and including the present.

CONTINUED ON P.44







The strength of the group was that each and every one of them was exceptional in every way. Thus the real story is that these five outstanding singers, brilliant musicians, and excellent songwriters created a cohesive, brilliant body of music in a very short period of time.

Most of them had spent their formative years as musicians working in bar bands. Don Stevenson (drums and vocals) and Jerry Miller (lead guitar and vocals) were from the Pacific Northwest, where both had played the bar band circuit. Miller was in the Bobby Fuller Four, played guitar on "I Fought the Law," and toured the South with the band. Stevenson had also backed jazz and R&B legends such as Big Mama Thornton and Etta James. Stevenson and Miller both ended up in the Frantics, a very popular Northwest bar band that was one of the first to cover "Louie, Louie," though they never recorded it. In an effort to help launch the band nationally they moved to S.F., where they ended up backing topless dancers.

Bob Mosley (bass, vocals) briefly joined the group. Before that he had played with the Misfits in San Diego. Peter Lewis (rhythm guitar, vocals) came aboard next. Lewis, actress Loretta Young's son, had played with surf band the Cornells and Peter & the Wolves. Stevenson, Miller, Mosley, and Lewis: All four were working journeyman musicians who had played any number of gigs in a wide variety of situations.

Besides drumming for Jefferson Airplane, Skip Spence had also briefly been a member of Quicksilver Messenger Service. Spence's impish, soulful spirit and glowing charisma personified Moby Grape.

When the lineup was in place they began to rehearse for eight hours a day at the Ark, a paddleboat turned into a Sausalito, Calif., club. The practice continued through September and October. "In the process [they] went from being an extraordinary collision of strangers to the tightest, most talked about band in San Francisco. The sessions became an off-hour magnet for other Frisco musicians and visiting dignitaries," writes David Fricke.

Even before they began playing public gigs, word on the band brought record companies to hear them. Interest in signing the five was expressed by a number of major labels. After a bidding war the group was signed to Columbia by David Rubinson, who produced not only the exquisite debut album but the next two as well (*Wow* and *Moby Grape '69*). When the band began playing out in November 1966, their incendiary performances immediately made them the talk of the town.

One of the last major San Francisco groups to form (late 1966), they were among the first to release an album. Together for some six months, they went down to a studio in Hollywood in March 1967. Three weeks later they finished recording their first album at the cost of $11,000. In the Bay Area there was enormous excitement about this forthcoming album. Unfortunately the record company was about to screw that up.

"Where's that old Mr. Blues?/I guess he's stepping on through (now)/Pushing down places, all down and abused/Picking on people with nothing to lose."

Columbia overhyped the band in every way imaginable, most notably by releasing five singles simultaneously off *Moby Grape* that June (10 of the album's 13 songs). The release was celebrated with a gig/party at the Avalon Ballroom, thrown by Columbia. With writers flown in from all over the country, the excess was more repellent than exciting. "Ten thousand purple orchids floated down from the Avalon ceiling, but once on the floor, the slippery petals had people falling ass-over-elbow all night," relates Fricke. There were also 700 bottles of wine that had on them special Moby Grape labels that the record company had printed up, though according to at least one source they had forgotten to have any corkscrews there. The hype was so embarrassing it turned off the critics.

The bad news didn't end there. In the very early hours of the morning after the party, Jerry Miller, Peter Lewis, and Skip Spence were arrested for being with underage girls. Miller was also busted for possession of marijuana. The charges were later dropped, but by then the damage had been done.

The bad mojo continued to mount. Someone at Columbia finally noticed that in the band photo on the cover of the album – already in distribution – Don Stevenson, holding a washboard, was giving the world the finger. Immediately a sticker was put over the offending finger on the copies already printed. The finger was airbrushed out of subsequent pressings.

Finally, the album's release was concurrent with Monterey Pop Festival. Moby Grape also performed at the festival, but whereas the event helped the careers of so many groups, manager Matthew Katz refused to allow the band's inclusion in the subsequent film and live recordings.

Not surprisingly, only one of *Moby Grape*'s five singles broke into the lower rungs of the Top 100. Over time the album has come to be labeled a commercial failure, but it actually did surprisingly well, staying on the charts for six months and peaking at No. 24.

One of the greatest ironies in modern music history is that although the Columbia people were idiots in the execution of the promotion, they were right on target. Five singles off the album could have easily charted. *Moby Grape* doesn't just live up to the ridiculous hype of its release, it's even better. Not only is it transcendent, it's still so remarkably fresh. Mainly this is because though widely and deeply loved, the album has really not been that influential. Highly regarded it still hasn't passed into legend like Love's *Forever Changes* or the Zombies' *Odessey and Oracle*. This may well be because it is not a concept album in any way.

The Byrds albums, for example, from *Mr. Tambourine Man* through *Dr. Byrds and Mr. Hyde*, have been strip-mined for every idea or even hint of one. The last decades of alternative country music are like an index to the Byrds' output, referencing lyrics, music, content, presentation, and narrative. The only way to really relish the brilliance and wonder of those Byrds albums is memory. The Grape's songs have certainly inspired subsequent songwriters but not nearly to the same extremes, so the music comes across as much fresher, not so hackneyed and, ironically, imitative.

Just a Bell Ringing

Moby Grape, released June 1967, is a songwriter's album, as all five members of the band wrote songs and were all truly gifted with no standout songwriter among them. Obviously during those months of rehearsal the five not only came together as a band but had concentrated as a group on recording their best material no matter who had written it to a soulful spit polish.

It was a time when culture was in transition, a period of change that considered the grander questions of living on this planet while effectively changing many of the most mundane aspects of how one lived his or her life. Rather than describing what was going on, *Moby Grape*'s songs were grounded in emotional snapshots of life tightly focused and coming out of the group's daily lives. And there was nothing mundane about their lives.

The Grape neither pushed the musical limits as much as the Grateful Dead nor were as political in their lyrics as Jefferson Airplane. The songs are not calls to arms. They lack polemics, and they neither share morbid visions nor predict the future. The tightest and most polished of all the S.F. groups, it's not that the band didn't push limits or project a unique powerful sound. They just did it their own way. Whether a rock anthem or painfully beautiful ballad it was a Grape song.

Recording the album, the group approached each and every song on its own terms, each loaded with interesting ideas, unique dynamics, and innovative construction. Thirteen

songs; each one carefully arranged, performed, recorded, and produced so that though the songs are legendarily tight, they still rock without guile or restraint. Whatever accepted style the songs seem to fit, they're always unique and often surprising.

The album's opener, "Hey Grandma," by Jerry Miller and Don Stevenson, is a rock anthem that begins with stinging electric guitar. It rips from silence to 60 in less than 10 seconds. When the band comes in singing harmony it begins to get unusual. The chain-saw guitar is layered over with lovely harmonies, the ringing sound contrasted with the lyrics: *"Hey Grandma, you're so young/Your old man's just a boy/Been a long time this time (pow-pow-pow)/Been a long time this time (pow-pow-pow)."*

Almost the "answer" song to the Airplane's "Come Up the Years" although not nearly as specific; it's a work of profound contradictions. The opening lines of the final verse add to the oddness: *"Robitussin make me feel so fine/Robitussin and elderberry wine/Hey Grandma."*

It's an anthem, or at least it sounds like an anthem, with the music driving forward and the vocals soaring above. But it's not a traditional American rock anthem. Certainly it isn't "Born to Run," "Born to be Wild," or "Roadrunner." It's not "London Calling," "We Will Rock You," or "I Love Rock & Roll."

Whether they're dumb or brilliant, usually American rock anthems at least try for the mythic, yearning for the open road, freedom, romance, and the unknown. They celebrate the outlaw life, sex, revolution, and/or drugs, while frequently being about the singer or the coolness of the band.

In song after song of *Moby Grape*, there's an overriding sense of the importance of time and of today as separated from yesterday and tomorrow.

Bruce Springsteen is one of the few artists who comes to mind who probably has put out albums with as many anthems as Moby Grape, though the latter lacks his bombast and ambition. Rather than celebrate classic American myths, the Grape's subject matter is more eccentric. Arguably "Changes," "Hey Grandma," "Fall on You," and "Omaha" are all anthems. But the songs are done the Grape's way, not according to any presumed rules or accepted standards.

One of the recurring motifs of these Grape anthems is a grandiose chorus hooked to a much smaller lyric picture. In the musically exuberant but lyrically downbeat "Changes" (Miller and Stevenson), this contrast is further enriched by the seeming philosophical differences between the chorus and the lyrics: *"Changes! (Changes!)/Changes! (Changes!)/I'm sure the cure is not there/Anywhere to be found."*

The chorus celebrates the mood of the times, but the underlying alienation of the singer is emphasized in the verses: *"I try to sympathize with their problems/But my changin' self/Won't keep up with nobody else."*

Finally, the song ends with the odd variant on the chorus: *"Everybody changes/But the weather's fine/Everybody changes …."*

The song is about changes in the culture, in lives, in relationships, and in general is a carefully constructed contradiction. The tension between the chorus and verses only enriches the song's meaning.

Overall the Grape's lyrics acknowledge these changes going on in the culture and in their lives. There's a strong current of optimism in most of these songs, though failed romances and misplaced dreams are not denied. Still, the melancholy can subvert that optimism as with the moodiness and despair of the singer of "Changes."

Listening to Skip Spence's "Omaha" makes it clear why he was such a legend, a towering talent who simply did things his own way. The verses are classic power song rock & roll, only they're a little spaced out, almost like street hipster haiku except more gleeful: *"Now my friends/What's gone down behind/No more rain/From where we came."*

And then: *"You thought never but/I'm yours forever/Won't leave you ever."*

Those simple rock verses become quite literally transcendent set against the big and bold anthemic chorus, a neon electric sign of the times: *"Listen my friends/Listen my friends/Listen my friends."*

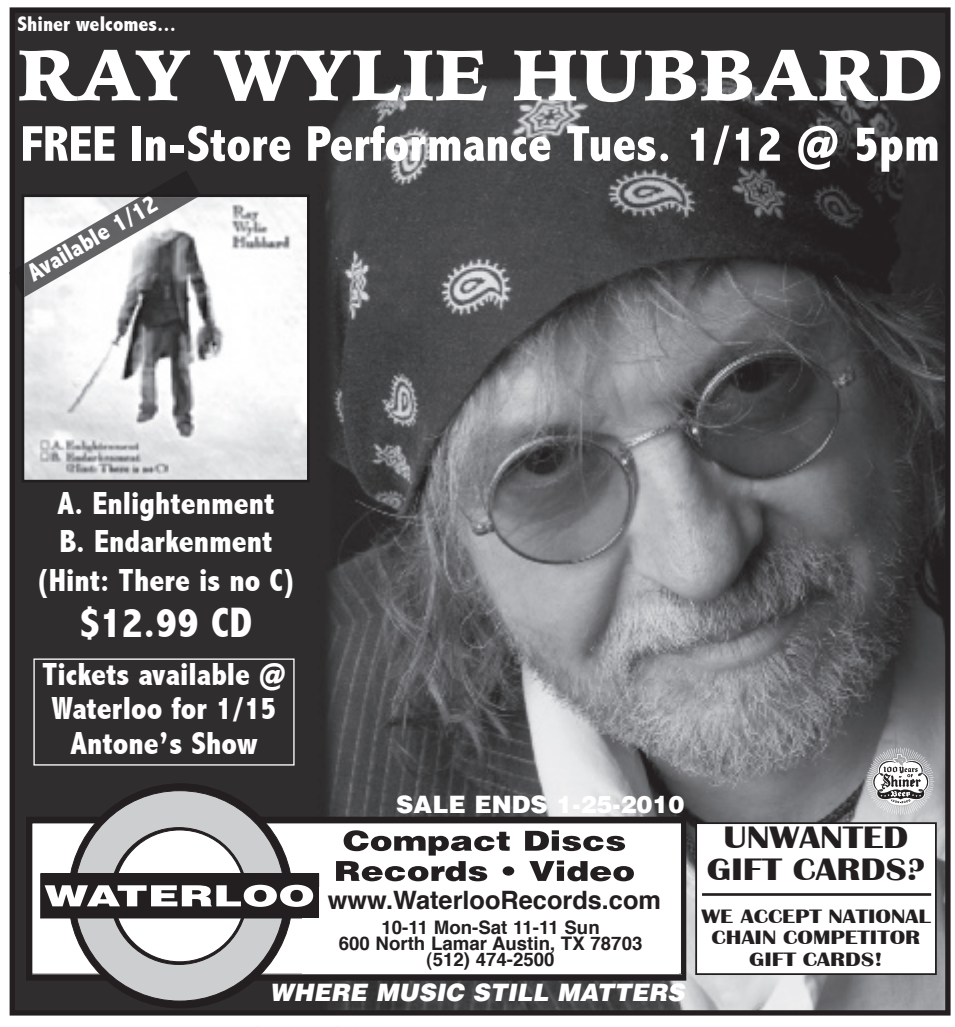
Originally the song was called "Listen My Friends," but Spence for no apparent reason changed the name to "Omaha," even though there's no reference to anything associated with that city. "Omaha" has been covered live in concert by artists such as Bruce Springsteen and on record by groups such as the Golden Palominos on *Visions of Excess* (1985), with R.E.M.'s Michael Stipe on lead vocal.

The power of the band's eccentric anthems is matched, complemented, and offset by some extraordinarily beautiful love songs, including "Someday," "Sitting by the Window," and especially "8:05." These love songs, as with so much romance portrayed by the Grape, are mostly about separation. Some are outright laments for lost love, but more often they're about losing love, the songs seemingly written at the moment of rupture or shortly thereafter.

In Peter Lewis' "Sitting by the Window," he evokes loss rather than specifically describing it: *"I was sitting by the window/Watchin' for the rain/I thought you were beside me/Just like before the rain."* He was thinking she was beside him, but she wasn't. She was gone. Again, the melancholy is both amplified and redeemed by a great chorus. Just as subtly, the song talks about how the failure of the relationship comes not just from her but from both of them. The lyric variations in the final chorus show his

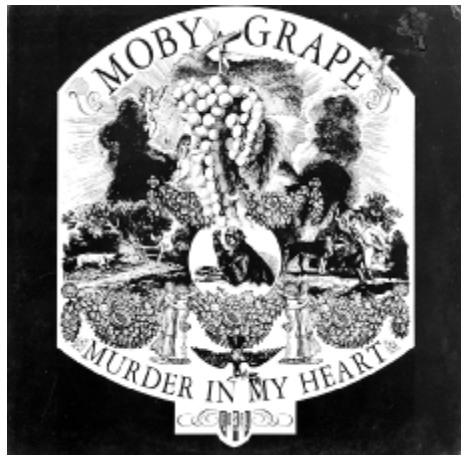
CONTINUED ON P.46











pained resignation to what has happened: *"But just the same/I'm playin' my game/And I guess you're playin' it too."*

The achingly lovely "8:05" (Miller and Stevenson) is one of the most covered of the album's songs, by the Grateful Dead, Robert Plant, and Christy McWilson with Dave Alvin, among others. Lacking the undercurrent of driving rock that's either blatant or creeps up as in most Grape songs, it starts gently with guitars and tambourine: *"Eight-oh-five/It's useless to try/I guess you're leaving soon."*

Beautifully sung throughout, the exquisite harmonies begging a love that's leaving to maybe rethink things prompts electric chills. *"Please change your mind/Before my sunshine is gone?"* This is followed by a repeated line that becomes the heart of the song. The question it asks is a plea not a demand: *"Do you think you could try?/Do you think you could try?/Do you think you could try?"*

One singer's voice rises, a counter-rhythm to the harmonies it is riding above and leading to the song's end: *"Don't fill my world with rain/You know your tears/Would only bring pain in my heart."* You can hear the singers take a breath, then they sing "8:05," followed by a resigned last line: *"I guess you're leaving, goodbye …."*

The instruments then drop out, leaving just the voices going high at the very end.

"Come in the Morning" (Mosley) is an anthem and a love song. The song opens with a spoken invitation, "Come on in people, we're going to tell you about good dreams and things to make you happy." Some regard this as the conceptual lead in to the whole album. This is followed by a very Haight-Ashbury hippie lyric: *"Come in the morning/When the sun is shining/Bring me a dream/With the sun beams climbing."*

Then comes the chorus, *"Stay with me now, tomorrow …/Come what may/Girl, come what may."* Clearly the singer's inviting a woman to join him, and the invitation is with some urgency. Combining verse and chorus, the song ends by setting the strength of the relationship – "You know I love you" – immediately against life's constantly haunted ambiguity ("Come what may"). It continues: *"You know that I need you (Come what may)/I don't want nobody else, baby (Come what may)/I don't need nobody, nobody else, baby (Come what may)/I just want your love (Come what may)."*

The genre blending in the songs is unique. When you listen to early Byrds there are elements of folk, hints of bluegrass, country, and country-blues all mixed into rock songs. Early on, even with the mix, the different elements are clearly identifiable. Gram Parsons' first attempts at country rock with the International Submarine Band sound crude and somewhat forced. When he joined the Byrds the resulting *Sweetheart of the Rodeo* leaned heavily toward country though clearly leavened with rock. *Echoes*, Gene Clark's first solo album (also released with some differences in songs as *Gene Clark With the Gosdin Brothers*), more organically incorporates and integrates a number of different styles, while also demonstrating how crucial if underrated were his contributions to the Byrds.

Moby Grape synthesizes so many different forms and genres into music where the original strands are not obvious enough to be easily color-coded. The end result is Moby Grape rock; to label it otherwise as folk-, country-, blues-, psychedelic-, or bluegrass-rock or to try to divine the threads and influences is to demean it.

Many of the songs are truly unique unto themselves.

Take Bob Mosley's "Mr. Blues," for example, an ode to the (Mr.) Blues. Although it's about the blues, it's not a blues but a rock song (with hints of blues and soul). The lyrics start by asking, "*Where's that old Mr. Blues? I guess he's got a new home*," suggesting the loss of accessible tragedy or the means for dealing with despair. Yet the tune has some sweet soul harmonies. The exception is Mosley's voice as it travels through the song.

"Where's that old Mr. Blues?/I guess he's stepping on through (now)/Pushing down places, all down and abused/Picking on people with nothing to lose."

At times Mosley's gravelly and well-traveled voice on its own seems a purer blues thread wandering through a pop-soul song. Sometimes the voice sounds close to sinking under the weight of sadness the singer carries. Still matched by the music, toward the song's end his voice rises into a kind of soul stuttering, featuring call-and-response phrasing and word emphasis.

Any serious conversation regarding American popular music of the last half-century has to begin with a discussion of silence.

"Got to, put down old Mr. Blues (let me tell ya)/Got to put blues down on the table/Got to let the blues go down/Down my throat now."

"Indifference" (Spence) opens with a chorus that immediately takes the song to some other plane. *"What a difference a day has made/What a difference a day has made/What a difference and more of the same."*

The first verse is more organic to the overall song than the verses in "Omaha."

"What's that song you're singing?/Just a bell ringing in my mind/What's that tune you're bringing?/Just part of what there is to find." The chorus reinforces this, but again, by soaring off itself above the song it ends up expanding it.

The only time Jerry Miller took a solo writing credit was for "Naked, If I Want To," a song that would have been out of place on almost any other album. Which may minimize its truly idiosyncratic status. Surreal, its stream-of-consciousness lyrics are of our world and not of it at all: *"Would you let me walk down your street naked if I want to/Can I stop by your work on the Fourth of July/Can I buy an amplifier on time/I ain't got no money/But I will pay you before I die."* What other song comes even close to this song's territory? Both Cat Power and Robert Plant have covered it.

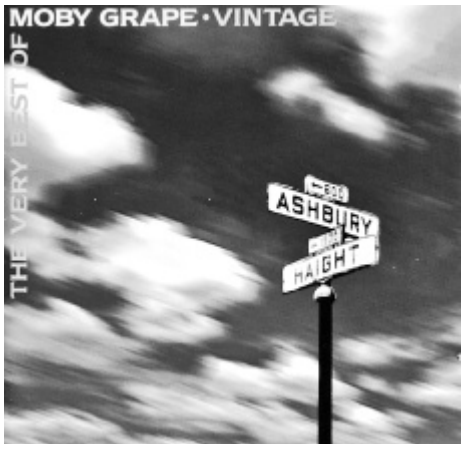
In song after song of *Moby Grape*, there's an overriding sense of the importance of time and of today as separated from yesterday and tomorrow. "What a difference a day has made" … "Stay with me now, tomorrow/Come what may" … "Eight-oh-five/It's useless to try/I guess you're leaving soon" … "I'm yours forever/Won't leave you ever" … "Here today, gone away."

These songs out of a brave new culture are most often on traditional topics. Although obviously they're tied to San Francisco, they're not restricted by it. As firmly as they are set in the time in which they were written, the contrast between verses and choruses endow them with a timelessness not moored to any particular period.

Been a Long Time This Time Round, This Time Round

Ironically, though the perception that the band failed commercially was way off, any number of other factors did them in. The comedy of tragedies that surrounded the first album's release was a prelude to the band's increasingly bitter, time-consuming, and ugly battle with original manager Matthew Katz. Some of this was about unpaid royalties, but the biggest issue was that Katz owned the band's name. The litigation began in 1969 and continued into the early new millennium.

The band's next album, *Wow*, released April 1968, did even better than *Moby Grape*, peaking at No. 20. Unfortunately it wasn't as clean and tight as the first album. They also quite foolishly included *Grape Jam*, a bonus LP featuring special guests such as Mike Bloomfield and Al Kooper. This jam LP has always seemed more disconcerting than a







welcome bonus. It did, however, inspire Kooper to get together with Stephen Stills and Michael Bloomfield to record *Super Session*, released August 1968, which was a huge hit, as was its follow-up, *The Live Adventures of Mike Bloomfield & Al Kooper*.

The beginning of the end for Moby Grape was not the commercial performance of *Wow* but recording it. They began working on it at the same Hollywood studio, but all the negative incidents affected the band's morale. At the same time they began partying too much while not working together nearly as well as in the past. Columbia insisted they finish recording in New York. After getting there, Peter Lewis left the band to try and save his marriage. Toward the end of the recording sessions, Skip Spence, who had been teetering on the edge for some time, finally lost it and went looking for Stevenson with an axe. He chopped through the drummer's hotel room door, and not finding him there, he went to the studio. Spence was committed to Bellevue Hospital in the aftermath and remained there for the rest of the album's recording. When released, he took some record company money and his motorcycle to Nashville, where he recorded his lo-fi masterpiece *Oar* (see "The Memory of Music," Dec. 17, 1999).

In so many ways Spence was the first among equals in Moby Grape. In later years Spence would sometimes sit in with the band, and they would continue to record songs by him on the band's other albums, but he was essentially gone.

Bob Mosley left the band after the third album to join the Marines. Eventually both Mosley and Spence were diagnosed with schizophrenia. Spence died in 1999.

Early on, the *Moby Grape* record was thought to be an indicator of the band's seemingly unlimited potential. Unfortunately the band never really recovered from the album's disastrous launch or Spence's leaving, so instead it ended up as a document of the band's flaming brilliance.

Buy an Amplifier on Time?

Silence: The end of this story has to be where it began. In silence.

The period that most of the San Francisco musicians grew up in is the same as when I grew up. Silence was prevalent; listening to music was difficult. One did not walk home from school listening to music, and we were not able to find and download almost any music that interested us. Hiding under the covers meant listening to a transistor radio. The music made by the groups talked about in this piece began in silence. Sometimes the only sound was the painful clicking of the clock each time it marked off a minute passed. Sometimes this sound is unheard (and doesn't need to be – it's about the time, not the clock), but sitting in a classroom, praying for the end of the school day, the sound was sharp and brutal.

Silence can be a nurturing and comforting place to think, to dream. It can be graceful and majestic, but it can be boring as well. A half century ago technology was different, communication was simpler, and the dispensation of information more basic. There was sound and noise, and there was silence.

The musicians discussed here grew up, discovered, and learned music in a very different world than the one we live in now. Most important have been the extraordinary changes in media, its relationship to culture and its rapidly changing role in people's lives. In the age of computers and modern communication, the Internet, it's not even outlandish to point out that we used to listen to music (in general interact with culture) very differently than we do now.

Media for most of the last century and before was something that was participated in by people on their terms. They would read a book, go to the movies, listen to the radio, or read a magazine. It required a conscious decision and an effort to access media.

Over the last few decades technological innovations have changed the way we live and communicate. Using a typewriter or writing by hand is so significantly different from using a computer as to be separate, distinct experiences. It used to be that one tried to have most research done before beginning to work on a piece because research was done far from where one wrote. Now with computers connected to the Internet, the nature of research and the retrieval of information has completely changed.

Think about the phone. A telephone once was a landline dial phone unless you were on a rural party line. Dialing took time compared to punching out numbers, though to many even that seems slow. Cell phones now give us fairly constant and flowing access to communication from almost anywhere, but using phones used to be a much more specific effort that always required some planning (this was even before answering machines). The difference in interpersonal communication is almost too complete to contemplate.

But it begins in silence or at least when silence dominated. Silence always generously allows sound, which is far more emphasized when it occurs against that background. This album *Moby Grape* is by musicians that grew up at the same time as rock, and they created an album that transcends not just the time when it was recorded but all of rock's evolutionary growth stages since then. ■

"What a difference a day has made/ What a difference a day has made/ What a difference and more of the same."

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this week's community listings

calendar

THURSDAY, JAN. 7 TO THURSDAY, JAN. 14

AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/COMMUNITY

BY JAMES RENOVITCH

THURSDAY 07

LOCAL FOODMAKER FAIR Local food producers and chefs show off and demonstrate their skills every day this week. Get a fish or get taught how to fish (symbolically speaking) and make your own. *4-7pm. Whole Foods Market Gateway, 9607 Research #300, 345-5003.* **www.wholefoodsmarket.com**.

CHAMPIONSHIP PARTY FOR A CAUSE Watch UT attempt to turn the Crimson Tide burnt orange on the big screens of the Hub. Drinks and food will cost you, but s'mores are free. A portion of the proceeds goes to Easter Seals. *7pm. The Hub, 3815 Dry Creek Dr., 432-5390.* **www.thehubaustin.com**.

VEGAN DRINKS NETWORKING Bring your business cards and vegan thirst for some tasty beverages and schmoozing. *7-9pm. The Ginger Man, 301 Lavaca, 963-2262.* **www.vegaustin.com**.

ONENESS BLESSING Anyone need a shift in consciousness without all those cultlike trappings? The Oneness people have you covered. *Thursdays, 7:30pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 476-2535. Donations welcome.* **www.onenessmovementaustin.com**.

THE WOMAN'S GOT SOUL Lisa Marshall's rapturous vox could coax butter from a duck. Seriously. And it will if you let it. Check out her Thursday residency throughout the month of January. *10pm. T.C.'s Lounge, 1413 Webberville Rd., 926-2200.* **www.lisamarshallmusic.com**.

SISTER SHOWGIRLS ON THE EDGE What a capital idea! The Capital City Showgirls: Goldie Haynes, Denise Mykles, and Simone Riviera dauntlessly flaunt it with special guests every week. DJ Kimikaze spins happy hour. *Thursdays, 11pm; happy hour, 6-10pm. Sister's Edge II, 113 San Jacinto, 457-8010.*

ARE YOU WORTH A MILLION IN PRIZES? How about $300? Well, come on down and take it all off, Bruce, we'll be the judge of that. All-male and amateur, just like you like it. *Thursdays, 9pm. Rain on 4th, 217 W. Fourth, 494-1150.*

FIRST THURSDAY Music, food, and shopping. *From the river, south on South Congress. Free.*

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Dougherty Arts Center

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Free Week! *Emo's, Mohawk, Red 7, Club de Ville, Stubb's, Beauty Bar, Beerland, the Parish*
Wisebird *Continental Club*

FRIDAY 08

PEOPLE UNITED hosts members of the Workers Defense Project who address immigration, labor, and workplace safety. *1pm. KOOP Radio 91.7FM.* **www.koop.org**.

ROSE'S BUFFET & FIND FRED Fit for a queen – who may no longer be "fit" after this indulgence. Then stay for Find Fred. Kind of like *Where's Waldo?* but with color-coded name tags. *Fridays, 5:30pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823.*

RECOMMENDED
YOUNG ONES
GAY PLACES

SMOKING BANANA Quick! Click the Official Spam of the Austin Outpost of the Guerrilla Queer Bar to learn the location of – and more importantly, what to wear to – this month's invasion. Now with 100% more Facebook. *Second Fridays, 6pm.* **www.smokingbanana.com**.

ELVIS, ADRIAN, DARLINGS, AND YOU The old boy would've been 75, had he not pooped over on the potty back in '77. Adrian & the Sickness and Darling New Neighbors are still with us, however, and will sing happy birthday to the King. Come enjoy them before rock star excess takes its toll. *10pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. $5.*

DOWNTOWN GHOST TOURS offer nooks-and-crannies walking tours that spotlight the dead to bring Austin's history and geography to life. *Fri.-Sat., 8pm. 853-9826.* **www.austinghosttours.com**.

JIM BAILEY IS NOT JUST A FRIEND OF DOROTHY He *is* Judy Garland. For one night only. Austin Cabaret's big gala is sure to sell out! Auctions, a delightful sit-down dinner, and more! Get your tickets now. *Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 289-2287 for info; 453-ACTS for tickets. $99.* **www.austincabaret.org**.

WOMEN-ONLY NAKED YOGA As if downward dog isn't freaky enough *with* clothes. As far as we know, this clothing-optional women-*only* yoga is the only class of its kind in Austin. *NiaSpace, 3212 S. Congress, 750-8211. $12.* **nudeyoga@texas.net**, **www.meetup.com/nude-yoga**.

LOCAL FOODMAKER FAIR (See Thursday, 1/7.)

THEATRE (See Arts Listings.)
Ruth Margraff & Cafe Antarsia *Salvage Vanguard Theater*

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Robin Hood: Men in Tights *@ Paramount, 9:05pm*
Young Frankenstein *@ Paramount, 7pm*

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Free Week! *Emo's, Mohawk, Red 7, Club de Ville, Beauty Bar, Stubb's, the Parish, Beerland*
Ignitor *Encore*
Tribute to the King *Continental Club*
Del Castillo *Saxon Pub*
The Wailers *Antone's*

SATURDAY 09

MONTHLY BIRD COUNT Because you have more fingers than birds. Counting themselves is out of the question. *7am & 4pm. Hornsby Bend Bird Observatory, 2210 FM 973 S., 300-2473. Free.* **ecarpe@gmail.com**, **www.travisaudubon.org**.

AUSTIN PRIDE BUILD LAST BUILD! Join Habitat for Humanity's rainbow crew on this last day to build a house for a friend. *8am. RSVP for location, 472-8788. Free.* **www.austinhabitat.org/programs/current/pride.php**.

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET features fresh organic produce, meats, and cheeses straight from surrounding Texas farms, plus live music every week. Soon to move to the shady environs of the park from the lot next to it. *Saturdays, 9am-1pm. Republic Square Park, 422 Guadalupe, 974-6700. Free.* **www.austinfarmersmarket.org**.

AUSTIN RECOVERY: SECOND SATURDAY WORKSHOP Help heal the wounds of addiction and live life to the fullest. *10am. Austin Recovery, 8402 Cross Park Dr., 697-8500. Free.* **www.austinrecovery.org**.

RECYCLE YOUR CHRISTMAS TREE Those of you who are *not* Pay-as-You-Throw customers can still recycle your Christmas trees: Just drop them off at Zilker Park, *2100 Barton Springs Rd*. (follow the signs to the polo fields); *10am-4pm*. All trees will be ground into mulch, which will be given away free in the new year. See **www.cityofaustin.org/parks/christmastree.htm** for details.

REPTILE & AMPHIBIAN EXPO Tables upon tables of reptiles and reptile-centric info await the herpetologist in the family. Arts & crafts will be available for the kids to keep them away from anything venomous. *Sat.-Sun., Jan. 9-10. The United Heritage Center at Dell Diamond, 3400 E. Palm Valley, Round Rock, 837-6253. $8/day, $12/two-day pass.* **www.austinreptileexpo.com**.

78704 ARTISAN MARKET has art and gifts handcrafted by local artisans. *Saturdays & Sundays, 11am-6pm. Corner of South Congress & Gibson, 914-3403.* **www.weare78704.com**.

TINPLATE TRACKERS TRAIN CLUB This open house will have a Lionel model train setup with all the fixin's. Come watch the choo-choos and inspire the next generation to keep this historic hobby alive and well. You might even be allowed to sit behind

gayplace

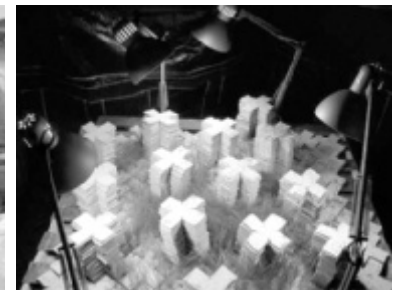
BY KATE X MESSER

Send gay bits to gayplace@austinchronicle.com. Visit austinchronicle.com/gayplaceblog.

TRANSAMERICAN APPOINTEE Whatever you want to say about our man in the White House, things are happening on the LGBT front. Perhaps not swiftly or soon enough for most folk, but the news this week of **Amanda Simpson** (a transgender test pilot, y'all!) becoming a presidential appointee to a very high-viz post in the **U.S. Department of Commerce's Bureau of Industry and Security** has got to warm some cockles and offer encouragement that transition is occurring (pun, yes, pun). And speaking of cockles, according to an interview with **ABC News**, Simpson says: "Being the first sucks. I'd rather not be the first but someone has to be first, or among the first. I think I'm experienced and very well qualified to deal with anything that might show up because I've broken barriers at lots of other places and I always win people over with who I am and what I can do." Personally, we say, "Go, Barry! Go, Barry! Go, Barry!"

TOP 9S: LET'S TRY THIS AGAIN I'll admit it. I was in a rush to get to the beach and futzed up a few **Top 9** things last week (and yes, it was a blast, thanks for asking). First of all, when I typed **DOMA**, I meant **ENDA**. Secondly and more embarrassingly, I had tech difficulties the entire time on the coast and never got to launch anybody but poor little **Lola Houston**'s toppers. So sorry! So we shall relaunch our **Top 9 Gay ShizzleNizzle of 2009** this week in our blog. Go check it out. Stale things are often chewier! See **www.austinchronicle.com/gayplaceblog**.



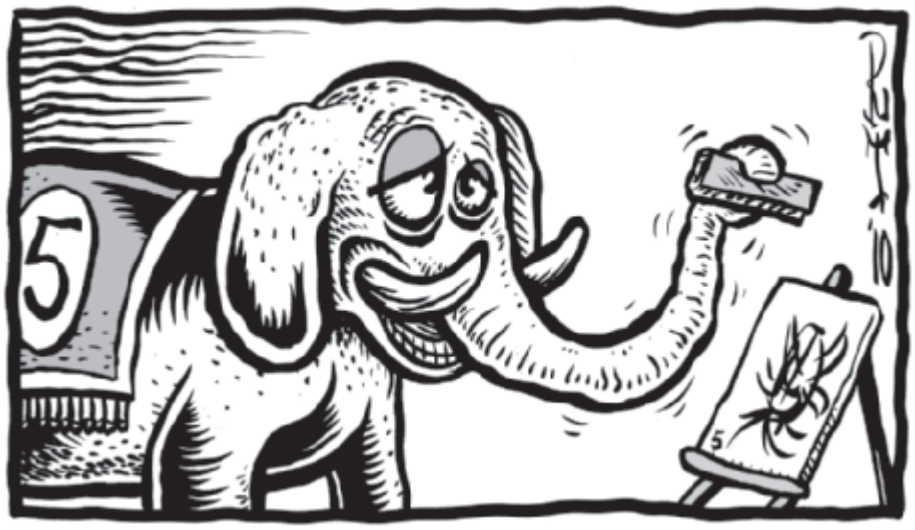




L - R: BOAT SHOW (SEE THURSDAY, JAN. 14) | OUTLAW NATIONALS MOTOR SPECTACULAR (SPORTS, P.53) | D BERMAN GALLERY (ARTS, P.54) | *THE IMAGINARIUM OF DOCTOR PARNASSUS* (FILM, P.58) | ADAM FRANKLIN (MUSIC, P.68)

News of the Weird

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



ROY TOMPKINS

At Britain's West Midland Safari Park, the African elephant Five spends portions of almost every day puffing away at a harmonica she found in her enclosure. Said a park spokesperson, "Five was making tunes within a few weeks." (The talented Five also paints on canvas.)

LEAD STORY

In Somalia, which is without a central government to speak of and where very little functions beyond an Islamic resistance and individual warlords' fiefdoms, a robust "stock market" has emerged in the city of Haradheere for "investors" in the seagoing pirate "industry," to raise money and supplies for kidnappers in exchange for a share of the bounty once a ransom is paid. According to a December Reuters dispatch, 72 "companies" are listed on the exchange, enabling "venture capital" to fund greater piracy traffic and more sophisticated looting. There even seems to be a financial "bubble" at work, in that since the "exchange" opened, pirates' ransoms have doubled to about $4 million per ship.

CULTURAL DIVERSITY

Afghanistan's national game, *buzkashi*, is attempting a marketing transformation inspired by pro football's and basketball's growths in the United States over the last several decades, according to a November *USA Today* dispatch. The main hindrance is that buzkashi is often little more than violent anarchy. A team of 12 men on horseback tries to carry a goat carcass the length of a field, around a goal, and back, through an opposing team's "defense" that includes almost any tactic short of murder. Spectators are often trampled by riders disregarding boundaries, and horses have dropped dead on the field from abuse or fatigue. The head of the Buzkashi Federation said he aims to present the game for consideration to the International Olympic Committee.

QUESTIONABLE JUDGMENTS

Michael Sampson, who was in court in Salina, Kan., in November merely on charges of littering and driving with a suspended license, was arrested after a judge spotted him at the defense table making threatening gestures to witnesses. Sampson was seen holding his thumb and fingers in the shape of a gun, "firing" at a witness, and making a slashing motion across his neck.

In November, Father Joe Vetter, head of Duke University's Catholic Center, criticized a research team seeking student volunteers on female attitudes toward sex toys and paraphernalia. Vetter said the project would affect students "in this development phase [of their lives], and I don't think it's a good developmental practice to just tell somebody to just sit around and masturbate."

KARMA

1) Shannon Broome, 15, of Jacksonville, Fla., with her leg in a cast and still laid up from a June rollover accident in an SUV, was hit again in December when another out-of-control SUV came through her bedroom wall and rebroke the leg (among other injuries inflicted). 2) Recently, at the Abergele Hospital in North Wales, Geraint Woolford, 52, was moved into a room to await a partial knee replacement and discovered that his roommate was Geraint Woolford, 77, who was awaiting a hip replacement. According to a December report in the *Daily Mail*, they are not related, but both are retired police officers.

THE SIMPLEST MUSICAL INSTRUMENT

Rajeev Kumar of Calcutta, India, is well-known locally for playing the harmonica – specifically, using only his right nostril. For added show, Kumar plays two harmonicas simultaneously, with his nostril and mouth. A BBC News reporter watching him (for a December dispatch) said Kumar's strain was obvious. "[T]he veins running through his nose and neck bulge, his eyes pop out, and his face looks red and stretched."

LATEST RELIGIOUS MESSAGES

Carried Away: 1) Since March 2008, the Cathedral of Christ the King in Phoenix has been ringing its bells every half-hour, 24 hours a day, enraging neighbors, and a showdown with city officials was looming at press time, according to ABC News. 2) Martina Rabess, 52, was sanctioned by Britain's Sevenoaks Magistrates Court in October after neighbors complained about her loud, continuous recitations of the Lord's Prayer in early morning hours around her home. 3) Atlanta municipal bus driver LeRoy Matthews was suspended in November for a recent incident in which he suddenly stopped the bus and refused to open the doors until the alighting passenger joined hands with him in prayer.

The Scranton Diocese, Needing Confession: Father Edward Lyman of the Pennsylvania diocese was removed as a parish administrator in November after he inadvertently (using his personal computer during early Mass) clicked on photos of four bare-chested young men in provocative poses. Also in November, the diocese disavowed Father Virgil Tetherow's behavior for offering Mass at a breakaway church in York, Pa., and too-aggressively protesting at a Planned Parenthood clinic (incidents on top of Tetherow's 2005 conviction on a charge that was originally child porn possession but was downgraded in a plea agreement). And yet another diocese priest, Father Robert Timchak, waived a preliminary hearing in November on charges of having child porn on his computer.

Aggressive Christianity: 1) The Rev. Marc Grizzard, pastor of the Amazing Grace Baptist Church in Canton, N.C., staged an October book-burning of "Satan's literature," including works by Mother Teresa and the Rev. Billy Graham and any Bible besides the original King James version. 2) In October, Mikey Weinstein, a former military lawyer who served in the Reagan White House, filed a lawsuit against Gordon Klingenschmitt, head of a Dallas chaplains' association, to stop Klingenschmitt from publicly reciting Bible verses implying a smiting of Weinstein, along with Weinstein's family and descendants for 10 generations. Said Klingenschmitt: "I never prayed for anyone's death. All I did was quote the Scriptures."

UPDATE

Ragnar Bengtsson, 26, the male Swedish student who vowed in September to pump milk from his nipples every three hours for 90 days, drop by drop, to show that it could be done, quit in November, concluding that it can't. Said a TV producer following Bengtsson around, "All he got was sore breasts."

PEOPLE WITH ISSUES

Sara Foss, 39, the mother of 13 in Derby, England, who is scheduled to deliver No. 14 in March, told the *Daily Mail* in November of her vow to continue getting pregnant until she fulfills her desire to have twins. Her longtime, live-in boyfriend works as a boat-builder, but their main income is government benefits worth the equivalent of about $80,000 annually. (Foss, apparently also a fan of literature and movies, has kids named Artemus, Morpheus, Voorhees, Baudelaire, Blackbird, Echo, Malachai, and Frodo.)

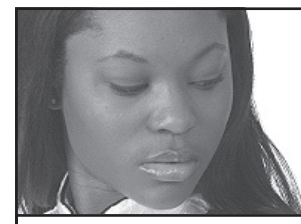
CLARIFICATION

Five weeks ago, "News of the Weird" reported that HoneyBaked Ham had fired Richard Huether, manager of its Cary, N.C., store, while he was still recuperating from being shot in a robbery of the store. The report noted that among the hardships of now being unemployed, his health insurance premium (under COBRA) would thus become steeply expensive. However, following the publication of the WRAL-TV story on which the "News of the Weird" report was based, HoneyBaked decided to prepay Huether's COBRA expenses for the next 18 months.

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at **www.newsoftheweird.blogspot.com** *(or* **www.newsoftheweird.com***).*

Send your Weird News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or **weirdnewstips@yahoo.com**.

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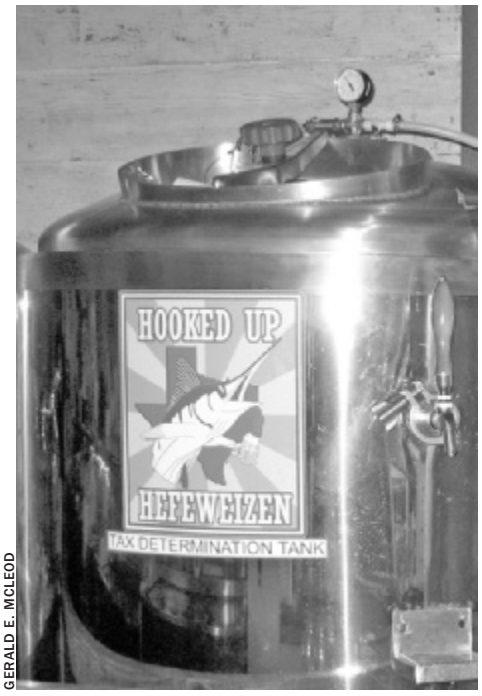
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BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

daytrips

The **Port Aransas Brewing Co.** looks like an ordinary beach-town pizza joint from the outside, but inside there's a lot of good food and drink being served. The brewpub was recently recognized as serving one of the 50 Greatest Hamburgers in Texas by *Texas Monthly* magazine.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

"We try to keep things simple and be the best at what we do," says Bob Petitt. Bob; his wife, June; and their three children opened the eatery in June 2008. Since then, the establishment has moved toward becoming a Port A institution.

The Petitts purchased a house in the seaside village about eight years ago and soon decided they wanted to retire there. "But we needed to continue having an income," he says. He owns an engineering firm in Dallas, and June was a certified public accountant.

One thing they noticed about Port Aransas was that the visitors drank a lot of beer. The city shot down their idea of a microbrewery on the island but loved the idea of a brewpub.

A home-brewer, Bob got serious about testing beer recipes in the year before they opened the restaurant. He says his engineering background helped with the chemistry of brewing, but he still had a lot to learn about brewing large quantities of beer.

The restaurant usually has nine different handmade beers on tap. "We try to keep the brews fairly simple but offer a wide variety," Bob says. He just released a blonde ale that he says is very good. His most popular beers are a pilsner, a wheat beer, and a bock. He readily admits that each batch has its own unique flavor, but that is part of the fun.

June is responsible for making the kitchen a success. "She is a very detailed and people-oriented person," Bob says. On any given afternoon she might be making pizza dough from scratch or breading onion rings. "She really makes quality a top priority," he says.

It's that attention to quality that landed them 44th on *Texas Monthly*'s list of 50 Greatest Hamburgers in Texas. Bob credits the custom-prepared beef he buys from North Texas as the key. "We own the steers the meat comes from," he says. "Nobody can have exactly the same beef."

Along with burgers and pizza, the menu also includes beer-battered fried shrimp, fish sandwiches, salads, and memorable onion rings. With nine televisions around the dining room, the restaurant is popular with sports fans. One of the picnic tables on the outdoor deck is a great place to catch a game and enjoy a sampler tray of the fresh beers and a platter of appetizers.

The Port Aransas Brewing Co. can be found at 429 N. Alister in Port Aransas. The eatery is open from 11am to 10pm daily except Wednesdays. Give the Petitts a call at 361/749-2739, or visit them at **www.portabrewing.com**.

966th in a series. Day Trips, Vol. 2, *a book of "Day Trips" 101-200, is available for $8.95, plus $3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.*

outoftown

PICK YOUR OWN TOMATOES right off the vine at the greenhouse. Best known for its poinsettias, Ellison's has brought back the heirloom tomatoes that started the company in 1969. It also has a wide selection of herbs and peppers. *Mon.-Fri., 8am-6pm; Sat-Sun., 10am-5pm. Ellison's Greenhouses, Brenham, 979/836-6011. $3 per pound.* **www.ellisonsgreenhouses.com**.

FIRST FRIDAY ART WALK welcomes visitors to 10 galleries hosting special events, refreshments, entertainment, and extended hours. *Fri., Jan. 8, 10am-8pm. Fredericksburg, 830/990-8151.* **www.firstfriday-fbg.blogspot.com**.

MASS TROPICAL BUTTERFLY RELEASE of more than 100 butterflies in the tropical-plant-filled conservatory to the sounds of calypso music. *Sat., Jan. 9, 10:30am. Texas Discovery Gardens, Dallas, 214/428-7476. $11-15.* **www.texasdiscoverygardens.org**.

THE CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CORPS TOUR visits park structures constructed by the CCC and tells the story of how the corps built the foundation of many state parks during the 1930s. *Sat., Jan. 9, 9-11am. Blanco State Park, Blanco, 830/833-4333.* **www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/blanco**.

WINTER ANTIQUES SHOW features dealers from around the state selling furniture, toys, glass, jewelry, and more. *Sat.-Sun., Jan. 9-10. Knights of Columbus Hall, Brenham, 979/865-5618.*

WINTER DANCE PARTY pays tribute to Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens, and the Big Bopper's final tour with an evening of rock & roll. *Sat., Jan. 9, 7:30-9:30pm. Brauntex Theater, 290 W. San Antonio, New Braunfels, 830/627-0808.* **www.brauntex.org**.

the controls if you're kind enough to the the tip jar. Held over until Jan. 16 by popular demand. *Saturdays through Jan. 16, 11am-5pm. 117 Lavaca (next to Ill Forks). Donations appreciated.* **www.trainweb.org/ttat**.

SECOND SATURDAYS FOR FAMILIES Bring the kids, and give those creative muscles a workout. *Noon-4pm. Austin Museum of Art – Downtown, 823 Congress, 495-9224. $7 per family.* **www.amoa.org**.

HEALTH & STRESS WORKSHOP Learn the symptoms of stress and how to prevent and relieve them. *2pm. Little Walnut Creek Library, 835 W. Rundberg, 974-7400. Free.* **www.cityofaustin.org/library**.

PAPER MACHE WORKSHOP Learn to use recycled materials to create usable art. This winter's theme is bowls. *Saturdays through Feb. 27, 2pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St., 478-6222. $5 per class.* **www.maccaustin.org**.

TREE PLANTING & PUPPETS Come for the tree planting and stick around for a special presentation of the puppet play, *Mr. Tamarin's Trees*. *2pm. Yarborough Branch Library, 2200 Hancock, 974-9920. Free.* **www.cityofaustin.org/library/leafforaleaf.htm**.

L/G RELEASE Tipple with Tipsy Texans, snarf some Tokyo Steak House & Sushi Bar, ball it up with Austin Cake Ball, win sh*t, and go show your L & G Style to all the purrdy party people. *7pm. Four Hands, 2090 Woodward, 371-7575. $10.* **www.lstylegstyle.com**.

MARC KATZ CAMPAIGN KICKOFF Meet and greet one of the candidates for lieutenant governor before a short talk on topics such as same-sex rights and job creation. Bring your questions for the open-floor portion of the evening. *8pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823.* **www.marckatzforltgov.com**.

NAKED YOGA FOR MEN Ongoing and open to all men, but it's endorsed by Gay Place because gay men teach it, and gay men are encouraged to attend. Let it all hang out, baby. (Ask about the clothing-optional co-ed option.) *Sundays, 10:30am; Mondays, 7:45pm; Wednesdays, 8:30pm; Saturdays, 10am. NiaSpace, 3212 S. Congress, 750-8211. $12.* **www.austinnakedyoga.com**.

SUNSET VALLEY FARMERS MARKET *Saturdays, 9am-1pm. Toney Burger Center, 3200 Jones Rd., 280-1976. Free.* **www.sunsetvalleyfarmersmarket.org**.

DOWNTOWN GHOST TOURS (See Friday.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Bolm Studios, **L. Nowlin Gallery**, **Wally Workman Gallery**

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
History of the World: Part I *@ Paramount, 9:05pm*
Robin Hood: Men in Tights *@ Paramount, 7pm*
The Monster Squad **(with guests in attendance)** *@ Alamo Ritz, 7, 9:50pm*

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Free Week! *Emo's, Mohawk, Red 7, Club de Ville, Beauty Bar, Stubb's, the Parish, Beerland*
Sabbath Crow *Encore*
The Melodians *Flamingo Cantina*
Count Dracula's Weed Smuggling Jam Engine *Hole in the Wall*

SUNDAY 10

MEDITATION CLASSES *Sundays, 9:30-11am. Chittamani Buddhist Center, 1918 Bissel, 916-4444. $10.* **www.meditationinaustin.org**.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM Mark Updegrove, director of the LBJ Library, shares his insight into the tradition of the presidency and the future of our local prez library. *Sundays, 11:30am. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free.* **www.austinuu.org**.



FOODIES GO TO T.C.'S (SEE THURSDAY, JAN. 14)

BUDDHIST CLASSES & MEDITATION Expand your heart, calm your mind, and soothe your wallet. Classes are open to the public. *Sundays, noon-2pm. Land of Compassion & Wisdom, 2601 Penny Ln. #230, 921-6901. Free (donations appreciated).* **www.austinfpmt.com**.

BOOKGODDESS BOOK GROUP We dream of a circle of women, but this ain't about us, honey. It's about *you* and your lit-loving self making your way to discuss books. This month: *Switching to Goddess* by Jeri Lyn Studebaker. *Every second Sunday, 1pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. 105-A, 472-2785.* **www.ebookwoman.com**.

FLYING THEATER MACHINE Parents and their 4- to 10-year-olds work together and add ingredients to the off-the-cuff recipe. Bring your suggestions to keep the improv coming. *Sundays, 2pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 971-3311. $5.* **www.flyingtheatermachine.com**.

PICKIN' PARTY FOR PEACE Instruments for Peace and the Austin Center for Peace and Justice invite the public to gather and enjoy music while brainstorming about spreading peace through Austin and the world. Plans will also be made for the Million Musicians March for Peace. *2pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473.* **richbowden@aol.com, www.instrumentsforpeace.org**.

STEPHANIE TOURLES cooks up some *Raw Energy: 124 Raw Food Recipes for Energy Bars, Smoothies, and Other Snacks to Supercharge Your Body*. *2pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.*

AUSTIN AMERICANS UNITED MEETING The newly recognized Austin chapter of Americans United for Separation of Church and State gathers to keep God out of government. *5pm. Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 2001 W. Anderson, 280-6950. Free.* **www.au.org**.

DIRTY SALLY'S NIGHT Relive Austin gay bars past! Fifty-cent beer on the patio, then get down on your knees and crawl all the way home – just like the good ol' days. *Sundays, 5pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823.*

LESBIAN TAKEOVER Maybe it's time to take the whole town, girls. One bar at a time? Show up at the Liberty and represent. Check out Goldstar Promotions on Facebook. *6pm. Liberty, 1618½ E. Sixth, 350-9918.* **jessicawimpy@yahoo.com**.

PRISM: UT LGBT CATHOLICS Explore what it means to be Catholic and gay, or even gay-friendly. Nonjudgmental, safe, and accepting: 100% open-hearted fellowship. *6pm. University Catholic Center, 2010 University Ave., 476-7351.* **prism@longhorncatholic.org, www.utcatholic.org**.

REPTILE & AMPHIBIAN EXPO (See Saturday.)

78704 ARTISAN MARKET (See Saturday.)

NAKED YOGA FOR MEN (See Saturday.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Collapse *@ Alamo Ritz, 7pm*
History of the World: Part I *@ Paramount, 2:30pm*
Young Frankenstein *@ Paramount, 4:20pm*

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Free Week! *Emo's, Red 7, Beauty Bar, the Parish*
Cruddy, **Sabertooth Snatch**, **Dated** *The Parlor*
The Austin *Cobra* Group *Salvage Vanguard Theater*

MONDAY 11

CENTRAL TEXAS DEMOCRATIC FORUM Hank Gilbert, Democratic candidate for Texas agriculture commissioner, talks politics and crosses his fingers for an endorsement. *Noon. Austin Bar Association, 816 Congress #700, 320-0665. $20 ($15, members).* **www.centraltxdemocraticforum.com**.

LEGAL CLINIC Free legal advice from Texas RioGrande Legal Aid. *Most Mondays & Wednesdays, 6pm. Mondays: Martin Middle School, 1601 Haskell. Wednesdays: Webb Middle School, 601 E. St. Johns, 374-2700. Free.* **www.trla.org**.

TAX HELP SEMINAR Bring your questions and whatever forms you can scrounge up, and talk to comptroller reps who can help you do your taxes right. You don't want to mess with the IRS. *6pm. William B. Travis State Office Building, 1701 Congress, 463-4865. Free.* **www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/seminars.html**.

HEALTH & STRESS WORKSHOP See Saturday for more info. *7pm. Windsor Park Library, 5833 Westminster, 974-7400. Free.*

LONE STAR LAMBDAS GLBT square dancing in Austin? Heck yeah and yeeee-haw! Nothing square about this group. Every week. Get in on the ground floor, do-si-do. *7pm. Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 200 W. Anderson, 418-1629.* **info@lonestarlambdas.org**, **www.lonestarlambdas.org**.

ORGANIC GARDENERS MEETING Learn the latest innovations in organic gardening. *7pm. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 443-7187. Free.* **www.austinorganicgardeners.org**.

PROUD? Potential volunteers, organizers, etc. come find out what the new AGLCC has up its sleeves for Pride 2010. *7pm. Hilton Garden Inn, 500 N. I-35, 480-8181.* **www.aglcc.org**.

NAKED YOGA FOR MEN (See Saturday.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Collapse *@ Alamo Ritz, 7pm*
The Magic Christian *@ Alamo Ritz, 10pm*

TUESDAY 12

COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY SYMPOSIUM The city of Austin Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs Office brings experts from Austin and beyond to discuss the steps that must be made to open digital resources to every Austinite. *9:30am-5pm. Microsoft Building, 9606 MoPac N. #200. $25.* **www.austinconnects.net**.

SOUTH AUSTIN DEMOCRATS CANDIDATE FORUM See how the Travis County candidates handle the heat as questions are posed and platforms are questioned. A panel selects the questions, but some will be accepted from the floor, so come prepared. *5:30-8:30pm. Garner Betts Juvenile Justice Center, 2515 S. Congress.* **sruiz@austin.rr.com**.

INTRODUCTION TO ALZHEIMER'S Get info on warning signs, stages, the importance of diagnosis, treatment options, and more. *Second Tuesdays, 6pm. Alzheimer's Association, 3429 Executive Center Dr., #100, 241-0420. Free.* **www.alz.org/texascapital**.

KOOP = QUEER Tweak your knobs (or Heath and Stephen's): 91.7FM. It's *OutCast*, for and about the Central Texas LGBT population. You might even hear a Gay Placer on the air now and again … or every week. *Tuesdays, 6-7pm. KOOP Radio 91.7FM.* **www.koop.org**, **www.outcastaustin.com**.

ALLGO MOVIE NIGHT Ooohh, papi-daddy, grab you a date and get down to ALLGO to check out *Noah's Arc* (the movie). You, some snacks, your hottie-bo-hottie, new friends, and a good movie. Just don't try that yawn and arm trick: They're on to you. *Second Tuesdays of the month, 6:30pm. ALLGO, 701 Tillery, 472-2001. Free.* **www.allgo.org**.

PFLAG MONTHLY MEETING Who do we luv more than PFLAG? Our mom. *Second Tuesday of every month, 7pm. Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Church, 3315 El Salido, Cedar Park, 512/302-3524. Free.* **pflagaustin@gmail.com**, **www.pflag-austin.org**.

KARAOKE WITH MARGARET Margaret's got the sauce, y'all! North Austin's fave neighborhood gay bar may not offer cash to winners, but someone might offer you $$ to *stop* singing. *Tuesdays, 9pm. 'Bout Time, 9601 N. I-35, 832-5339.* **www.bouttimeaustin.com**.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Cairo Station **and "Cairo as Seen by Chahine"** *@ Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm*



STAR OF TEXAS TATTOO REVIVAL (SEE THURSDAY, JAN. 14)

WEDNESDAY 13

SCULPTURE TALES Kids between the ages of 3 and 5 are encouraged to bring their parents for folk tales by storyteller Karen Hodges followed by crafty activities. *10:30am. Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum, 605 Robert E. Lee Rd., 445-5582 x101. $5.* **www.umlaufsculpture.org**.

SCIENCE FAIR WORKSHOP Do you have science block? Get some ideas for experiments, and get a refresher on the scientific method. Good thing geeks are the new jocks. *5pm. Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Dr., 989-3188. Free.* **www.wblibrary.org**.

BILINGUAL STORYTIME This six-week series of stories from the mind of Carmen Lomas Garza is presented in English and Spanish with songs, activities, and, of course, storytelling. *Wednesdays, 6pm; Sundays, 3 & 4pm. Austin Children's Museum, 201 Colorado, 472-2499. $6.50 (free on Sundays).* **www.austinkids.org**.

NUECES BICYCLE BOULEVARD OPEN HOUSE Learn about the plan to make Nueces a "bicycle boulevard." Representatives from the Public Works and Transportation departments will be on hand to provide information and listen to your ideas. *6pm. Pease Elementary, 1106 Rio Grande, 414-4428.*

ORIGAMI CLUB MEETING I have to say, the Origami Austin people send me the coolest paper designs every month with their press release. Ask them how to make the improbably awesome easy-fold map. *6pm. Yarborough Branch Library, 2200 Hancock, 567-4493. Free.* **www.origamiaustin.org**.

BROWN BAG PARTY A toy party with games and prizes. You know, "toys," as in the kind you might like to carry out in a brown bag. *Wednesdays, 8pm. Sister's Edge II, 113 San Jacinto, 457-8010.*

GATEWAY TO RECOVERY No registration is needed for this two-part class which explains the social, physiological, emotional, and mental effects of addiction. *First & second Wednesdays of the month, 7-9pm. Austin Recovery, 8402 Cross Park Dr., 697-8500. Free.* **www.austinrecovery.org**.

LEGAL CLINIC (See Monday.)

NAKED YOGA FOR MEN (See Saturday.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Ed Wood *@ Paramount, 9pm*
Edward Scissorhands *@ Paramount, 7pm*
Trouble the Water *@ Alamo Ritz, 7pm*

TOMORROW HAPPENS HERE.



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SXSW offers the unique convergence of original music, independent films, and emerging technologies. Fostering creative and professional growth alike, SXSW is the premier destination for discovery.

SXSW INTERACTIVE **danah boyd** will deliver Opening Remarks for SXSW Interactive on March 13th. Spotify's **Daniel Ek** is the scheduled keynote speaker for Tuesday, March 16th.
List of confirmed sessions: **sxsw.com/interactive/talks/panels**

SXSW FILM Interviews include Academy Award-winning Argentine composer, solo artist and producer, **Gustavo Santaolalla**, and comics legend **Gilbert Shelton**.
Film schedule and panels: **sxsw.com/film**

SXSW MUSIC **Smokey Robinson** is set to deliver the keynote address on Thursday, March 18th. SXSW Music has announced over 450 showcasing artists for 2010. Hundreds more to come!
List of confirmed artists: **sxsw.com/music/shows/bands**

Check sxsw.com often for the latest announcements!

Miller Lite · sonicbids · Microsoft Silverlight · CHEVY · ZONE Perfect All-Natural Nutrition Bars · Aol. · IFC · MONSTER ENERGY · THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Adam Franklin & Bolts of Melody *Emo's*
Behemoth *Emo's*
Willie "Big Eyes" Smith, **Pinetop Perkins** *Antone's*

THURSDAY 14

GREEKS ALIVE The Pollyanna Theatre Company introduces kids to the major players of Greek mythology. Recommended for ages 8 and older. *Thu.-Sun., Jan. 14-17. Rollins Studio Theatre at the Long Center, 701 W. Riverside, 743-7966. $8.50 ($6.50, children).* **www.pollytheatre.org**.

LUNCH WITH THE COLOR PURPLE The cast of this hit musical invites the public to spend their lunch hour with them. Meeting, greeting, and eating is the order of the day, so bring a lunch. *Noon. George Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center, 1165 Angelina, 472-4809.*

HILL COUNTRY RIDE FOR AIDS KICKOFF Set your pedals to the metal and get pumped to ride. Free food, free booze, the Elastic Fantastics, and live music by the Psychic Cowboys shall inspire you to gear up for the April 24 ride. *7pm. La Zona Rosa, 612 W. Fourth, 371-7433. Free.* **www.hillcountryride.org**.

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE SEMINAR is for local high school juniors and seniors who think they can handle college preparatory courses for real-life college credit. You might want to bring the parents to this one. *7pm. Anderson High School, 8403 Mesa, 414-7951. free.* **www.austinisd.org/staff/123**.

ANARCHISM IN AMERICA SCREENING The title of this documentary pretty much says it all. *7:30pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free.* **www.monkeywrenchbooks.org**.

GENEALOGY AFTER HOURS This month's meeting of the Williamson County Genealogical Society discusses courthouse records for genealogists. *7:30pm. Round Rock Public Library, 216 E. Main St., Round Rock, 512/218-7000. Free.* **www.rootsweb.ancestry.com**.

LE CORDON BLEU CHALLENGE Teams of Austin chefs, personalities, and culinary students battle it out for edible supremacy. And you can watch. It's like Mad Max's Thunderdome, but no one dies and everyone eats. Even the onlookers. *7pm. Texas Culinary Academy, 11400 Burnet Rd. #2100, 837-2665. $25.* **www.lecordonbleu.eventbrite.com**.

TAKE IT, COCO PERU! This rode hard and put up wet drag diva takes on Texas. Don't mess with it, girl! Watch it! *8pm. Rusty Spurs, 405 E. Seventh, 482-9002. $30 ($20 advance); VIP: $45 ($40, advance).* **www.cocoperutakesontexas.com**.

FOODIES GOES TO T.C.'S TO SEE LISA MARSHALL A small, beautiful woman shall croon and the Foodies shall swoon at this soulful Eastside blues mecca. Lisa plays every Thursday this month. *10pm. T.C.'s Lounge, 1413 Webberville Rd., 926-2200.* **www.lisamarshallmusic.com**.

BOAT SHOW All manner of watercraft will be on display for your ogling (or purchasing) pleasure. Activities for kids (live catfish tank) and adults (coastal fishing roundtable) help keep things afloat. *Thu.-Sun., Jan. 14-17. Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 404-4000. $8 ($4, seniors and children).* **www.austinboatshow.com**.

STAR OF TEXAS TATTOO ART REVIVAL This is the seventh year for the annual celebration of the skin arts. Watch the professionals tint skin live and in person and enjoy the combination of circus performing and burlesque with Baltimore's Lucky Daredevil Thrill Show. You'll have a sleeve before you know it. *Fri.-Sun., Jan. 14-16. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd. $15/day, $40/weekend.* **www.golivefast.com/contentsaus.php**.

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Monarch Event Center

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Ed Wood *@ Paramount, 7pm*
Edward Scissorhands *@ Paramount, 9:25pm*

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
The Wood Brothers *Cactus Cafe*
The Happen-Ins, **the Ripe** *Club 1808*
Dana Falconberry CD Release *Mohawk*

now . . .

BARTON SPRINGS INTERPRETIVE PLAN SURVEY The Parks and Recreation Department needs your input to get a better idea of the use patterns at Barton Springs Pool. If you don't participate, you can't complain if PARD decides to install heaters in the pool. **sabina.mora@ci.austin.tx.us**, **www.surveymonkey.com/s/ksgyrbw**.

BRADFORD FOR JUSTICE He's walked the blocks and got the sigs: Daniel Bradford's officially on the ballot. Now, let's help out our man get to the JP seat in Precinct 1. *275-6773.* **info@bradfordforjustice.com**, **www.bradfordforjustice.com.**

CITIZEN SERVICE ABOVE SELF HONORS The Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation is looking for nominations of ordinary Americans who become extraordinary through their indomitable courage and selflessness. Go to **www.citizenserviceaboveselfhonors.org** for the nomination form.

COMPREHENSIVE HOUSING MARKET STUDY The city of Austin's Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office is trying to set priorities and shape Austin's housing market into an equitable landscape. Go online to see the office's findings to date and perhaps take a survey to do your part. **www.cityofaustin.org/housing/apr08chms.htm**.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SURVEY The city of Austin wants to know what you love and hate about our fair town. Don't hold anything back; that would be counterproductive. It's not just a complaining contest though; offer suggestions for the future. Go to **www.imagineaustin.net/survey.htm** to participate.

ECKANKAR CENTER WORKSHOPS The Eckankar Center of Austin hosts seminars and discussions of all things spiritual. Connect with the divine, interpret your dreams, conquer fear, master change, and more at one of its myriad free gatherings. Call or go online for a complete schedule. *Austin Eckankar Center, 223 W. Anderson Ste. 206-B, 453-0331.* **www.eckankar-texas.org**.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD NOMINATIONS The Austin Climate Protection Program is accepting nominations of individuals, businesses, and organizations who deserve recognition for their green efforts. Go online for nominee criteria, and fill out the submission form before March 1. **www.coolaustin.org**.

FAMILYLAB provides a hands-on, experimental art experience for kids and parents. You can play and make your own take-home art projects. *During regular museum hours. AMOA, 823 Congress, 495-9224. $5 (free, children under 12).* **www.amoa.org**.

Wondering what to do with your kids when school ends? You can ship them off to Grandma's if you want them to have a summer of marzipan and cheek pinches, or you can use the *Chronicle*'s handy Summer Camp Guide.

SUMMER CAMP GUIDE 2010

But before we can do that, we need to know all the cool offerings for the blazing Austin summer. If you run or host a summer camp, please go to **austinchronicle.com/scsub** for a list of required info. Do it now, or risk a summer of kids experimenting with Grandma's painkillers.

FINANCIAL COACHING Mondays through Saturdays, individuals earning less than $25,000 and families earning less than $50,000 can get free, one-on-one help reducing debt, fixing credit, and clarifying other money matters. *Foundation Communities, 3036 S. First #200, 610-4026.* **financialcoach@foundcom.org**, **www.foundcom.org**.

HER HRC Grrlz will be BoiZ, Holly Lorka, and Allie Rolison entertain this Austin installment of a 35-city concurrent party. Get your tickets now. *Sun., Jan. 17, 8pm. El Sol y la Luna, 600 E. Sixth, 444-7770.*

HUMAN POTENTIAL CENTER This South Austin nonprofit has oodles of classes and workshops – from yoga and Reiki to art classes and dream interpretation – just waiting to maximize your potential. Check out the website for more info. *Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988.* **www.humanpotentialcenter.org**.

INTERNATIONAL POETRY FESTIVAL is calling for submissions for its youth poetry anthology from kids in grades K-12. Deadline: *Feb. 1.* **aipfya@sbcglobal.net**.

KIDSACTING SPRING REGISTRATION Young theatre buffs (ages 3 to 18) should sign up now for the spring semester. Classes include acting, theatrical design, musical theatre, and more. *836-5437.* **www.kidsactingstudio.com**.

LAND GRANTS OF THE TEXAS REVOLUTION The latest exhibit, "A Hero's Reward," displays artifacts and historical documents that illuminate how soldiers of different races and backgrounds were compensated for their participation in Texas' struggle for independence. *Capitol Visitors Center, 112 E. 11th, 305-8400. Free.* **www.texascapitolvisitorscenter.com**.

NATURAL HEALTH CENTER has workshops in locations all over town, most of them free of charge. Learn to balance hormones and alleviate allergies and migraines the natural way. Call for upcoming courses. *892-3366.* **www.naturalhealthaustin.com**.

POINT FOUNDATION LGBT SCHOLARSHIPS Hey students! Apply to the nation's largest scholarship-granting org for LGBT students of merit. *Applications available now. Deadline: Fri., Feb. 12.* **shannon@pointfoundation.org**, **www.pointfoundation.org**.

PREORDER AMMONITE Support local poetry and order Abe Louise Young's upcoming chapbook now. E-mail for ordering info. Release: *Fri., Jan. 15. $14 for one, $25 for two, $33 for three, etc.* **abelouiseyoung@gmail.com**, **www.abelouiseyoung.com**.

WASTEWATER AVERAGING The Austin Water Utility has begun its annual wastewater averaging cycle, which means your billing rates will depend on your usage over the next few months. If you weren't conserving already, now's the time to do it and save money for all of next year. Go to **www.cityofaustin.org/water** to find out more or learn the specific dates for your averaging.

& later

BOOKSPRING READ-A-THON Go online, make a pledge to read between Jan. 25 and Feb. 5, and ask relatives to sponsor your reading frenzy. The money you collect goes to Bookspring, which helps get books in the hands of underprivileged youth. *472-1791.* **www.bookspring.org**.

CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY Learn about the many functions and operating procedures of the Austin Police Department. The next session starts *March 2*. For more information or an application, visit the APD website, **www.cityofaustin.org/police**. *974-5941.* **dennis.farris@ci.austin.tx.us**.

CLIMATE PROTECTION CONFERENCE & EXPO features two days of discussions, displays, and presentations centered on sustainable solutions to climate problems. Learn about the latest innovations in green transportation and building. *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 15-16, 10am-5pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 344-2028. Free.* **www.austinclimateexpo.com**.

MERRY MERRY MARTINI MIXER What does $50 get you? A rainbow of martini flavors, noshies, mixing, mingling, and, oh yes, some potentially life-saving legislation. Mix away, darlings! *Sat., Jan. 16, 8-11pm. Mercury Hall, 615 Cardinal, 475-5475. $50.* **www.equalitytexas.org**.

OUT YOUTH'S 20 FOR 20 Laugh your ass off and celebrate 20 years of Austin's beloved queer and questioning youth drop-in center with Mocha Jean Herrup, Alli Rolison, and Lisa Geduldig. *Fri., Jan. 22, 9pm. Rusty Spurs, 405 E. Seventh, 482-9002. $20.* **www.outyouth.org**.

QUEER AS A ... The 3$ Bills whip out funny-make-'em-ups as part of Monday Night Mash. *Mon., Jan. 18, 8:30pm. ColdTowne Theater, 4803-B Airport, 524-2807. Free.*

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Jan. 22 issue is Monday, Jan. 11**. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX, 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail:

Kate X Messer (Gay Place): **gayplace@austinchronicle.com**.

Mark Fagan (Sports): **gameplans@austinchronicle.com**.

James Renovitch (everything else): **calendar@austinchronicle.com**.

For FAQs and an online submission form, go to **austinchronicle.com/commform**.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, Listings editor, 454-5766 or **brenner@austinchronicle.com**.

sports listings

BY MARK FAGAN

Got a sporting event you'd like to see listed in *The Austin Chronicle*? Submit your sporty happening online at **austinchronicle.com/commform.**



The Crashmaster

OUTLAW NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP MOTOR SPECTACULAR

Following the Lil Wayne concert this past Wednesday, the Expo Center will host another larger-than-life eardrum-rattling entertainment spectacle: monster trucks. All your faves will be on hand, including Overkill, Crashmaster, Barbarian, Monster Patrol, the monster Hummer Sergeant Smash, and more. Just as for the Weezy concert, earplugs are recommended, because these beasts settle their beefs in manic metal-crunching fashion. In addition to the monster trucks, there will be pimped-out dragster tractors engaging in jaw-dropping ground-pounding "pulling" action. Ticket holders are invited to attend the free Friday night pit party for autographs and photos with the stars. *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 8-9, 7:30pm (gates at 6pm). Travis County Expo Center, 7311 Decker. $9-19 in advance, $10-20 day of show, ages 2 and under free. Tickets available at O'Reilly Auto Parts stores and* **www.centralticketoffice.com**. *For more info, see* **www.mapmotorsports.com**.

THE HOME TEAMS

TEXAS STARS welcome I-35 rivals the San Antonio Rampage to Cedar Park. Vs. San Antonio: *Tue., Jan. 12, 7:30pm. Cedar Park Center, 2100 Avenue of the Stars, Cedar Park, 512/GO-STARS. $9-50.* **www.texasstarshockey.com**.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Men's and Women's Swimming Vs. Auburn: *Thu., Jan. 7, 3pm; Sat., Jan. 9, 11am. Texas Swim Center, 1900 Robert Dedman Dr.* **Men's Basketball** Vs. Colorado: *Sat., Jan. 9, 12:45pm. Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. $7-45.* **Women's Basketball** Vs. Texas A&M: *Sat., Jan. 9, 5pm. Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. $5-16.* **www.texassports.com**.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. Mississippi College: *Thu., Jan. 7, 7:30pm.* Vs. Louisiana College: *Sat., Jan. 9, 3pm.* Vs. Howard Payne: *Thu., Jan. 14, 7:30pm. Concordia Fieldhouse, 11400 Concordia University Dr. $3-5.* **Women's Basketball** Vs. William Smith College: *Wed., Dec. 30, 5:30pm.* Vs. Mississippi College: *Thu., Jan. 7, 5:30pm.* Vs. Louisiana College: *Sat., Jan. 9, 1pm.* Vs. Howard Payne: *Thu., Jan. 14, 5:30pm. Concordia Fieldhouse, 11400 Concordia University Dr., 313-4503. $3-5.* **athletics.concordia.edu**.

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. Incarnate Word: *Thu., Jan. 7, 8pm.* Vs. St. Mary's: *Sat., Jan. 9, 4:30pm.* **Women's Basketball** Vs. Incarnate Word: *Thu., Jan. 7, 5:30pm.* Vs. St. Mary's: *Sat., Jan. 9, 2pm.* **www.stedwards.edu/athletics**.

HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. Wiley College: *Mon., Jan. 11, 7:30pm.* Vs. Our Lady of the Lake: *Thu., Jan. 14, 7:30pm.*

TEXAS STATE Women's Basketball Vs. UT Arlington: *Sat., Jan. 9, 4pm. Strahan Coliseum, San Marcos.* **Men's Basketball** Vs. Texas A&M Corpus Christi: *Wed., Jan. 13, 7pm. Strahan Coliseum, San Marcos.* **www.txstatebobcats.com**.

RECREATION & FITNESS

GOLF CLASSES FOR BEGINNERS Did you resolve to learn the game of golf in 2010? Sign up now while you're still motivated. Classes forming for January and February with 13 hours of instruction covering the fundamentals. E-mail Scott Johnson for info. **scottAJ1@juno.com**.

ROUND ROCK HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL INVITATIONAL Held in part to raise funds for area female athletes and to showcase their skills for college coaches, approximately 60 high school teams from throughout Texas will compete for the championship title. *Sat.-Sun., Jan. 9-10. Old Settlers Park, 3300 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock.* **www.sportscapitaloftexas.com**.

FREE MEN'S SELF-DEFENSE SEMINAR Participants will learn how to protect themselves in bad situations and the best ways to avoid said situations. *Sat., Jan. 9, 2-3pm. Austin Fitness Martial Arts, 4327 S. First, 707-8977. Free.* **www.austinfitnessmartialarts.com**.

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

RUNTEX 10/20 MILER is just that, a 20 miler through Georgetown and Williamson County. There's a 10 mile and a 5K too, if you get impatient. *Sat., Jan. 10, 8am. Georgetown High School, 2211 North Austin Ave., Georgetown, 512/868-2345.* **www.runtex20miler.com**.

RIVER ROAD 12-MILE RUN is a lovely jaunt down River Road, north of New Braunfels. There is also a 4-mile fun run (if running four miles is something that sounds like fun to you) with a party and awards ceremony afterward. *Sat., Jan. 9, 8am. Hueco Springs Campground, 4481 River Rd., New Braunfels, 830/627-8401.* **www.seidelproductions.com**.

THE DAPPER DAN DASH/SHANNON TWEED RIDE Bicycle riders will don garb from the Victorian era through the 1930s and ride through town. *Riders gather at Pfluger Pedestrian Bridge, just east of the Lamar bridge. Sun., Jan. 10, 2pm.* **www.dapperdandash.wordpress.com**.

UPCOMING

3M HALF MARATHON & RELAY Runners will enjoy this fast, downhill race, which is the city's third longest distance run. Run as an individual or two-person relay team. Proceeds will benefit Any Baby Can of Austin. *Sun., Jan. 24, 6:45am. Starting line is near the 9500 block of Stonelake Boulevard, close to Baby Acapulco's, 984-7223. $70 for individuals, $110 for two-person teams.* **www.3mhalfmarathon.com**.

BY NICK BARBARO

soccer watch

USL-1/Austin Aztex Update: At press time, everyone is awaiting word of a rumored resolution to the dispute between the United Soccer Leagues and the breakaway North American Soccer League. The **U.S. Soccer Federation** is said to be brokering a deal to create a two-division league: teams under contract to the USL and teams no longer under contract. Under such a plan, the Aztex would be in a "United" division with Puerto Rico, Portland, Rochester, Tampa Bay, and Baltimore – while Vancouver, Montreal, Carolina, Miami, Minnesota, Atlanta, and St. Louis would be in the "North American" division.

Aztex affiliate **Stoke City** broke out of a deep scoring slump on Tuesday, beating Fulham 3-2 (despite a gorgeous 35-yard volleyed goal from Fulham's American striker **Clint Dempsey**). The Potters had been the lowest-scoring team in the English Premier League this season, and this was the first time they've scored three in one game since August 2008.

Barcelona, winners of everything in the world in 2009, started 2010 back home in Spain looking awfully ordinary (or tired, after fitting the Club World Cup in Abu Dhabi in between their regular schedules). Within three days they suffered a home draw in league play and a 2-1 home loss in the Copa del Rey, in which they are defending champion.

ESPN has announced that the **opening game of the 2010 World Cup** (South Africa-Mexico) will be televised on **ESPN 3D**, the industry's first 3-D television network. That's June 11; set your DVR.

IS THIS THE NEW U.S. SECOND DIVISION?

Here's one way the U.S. Soccer Federation might restructure the United Soccer League First Division (see story). Each of these teams was in the USL-1 last season, except as noted.

UNITED CONFERENCE

Puerto Rico Islanders
Portland Timbers
Austin Aztex
Rochester Rhinos
*Tampa Bay Rowdies**
*Crystal Palace Baltimore***

NORTH AMERICAN CONF.

Vancouver Whitecaps
Montreal Impact
Carolina Railhawks
Miami FC
Minnesota Thunder
*Atlanta Silverbacks****
*AC St. Louis**

**expansion*
***up from USL-2*
****ex-USL; sat out 2009*

BEGINNERS START EVERYDAY



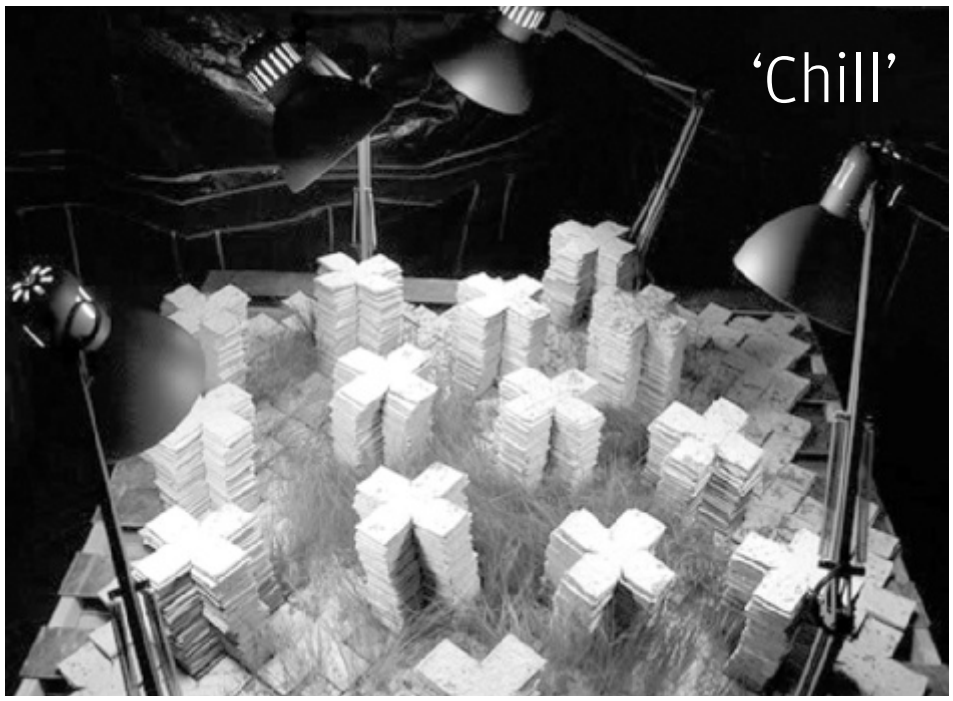
Reduce Stress
Find Balance
Increase Focus

Learn more about the benefits of practicing yoga at www.yogayoga.com/benefits.



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www.yogayoga.com
512.380.9800

arts listings



D Berman Gallery, 1701 Guadalupe,
477-8877, **www.dbermangallery.com**
Through Feb. 6

Congratulations, friend. You've breached the abstract membrane between one decade and another, successfully piloted your aging ship of self into a hangar of possibilities called The Rest of Your Life, and now it's time to chill. Now it's time *for* "Chill," to be precise, although that winter group show of visual art opened at D Berman Gallery in December of this past year. It's time for "Chill," because nothing quite becomes a hangar of possibilities as original artwork that delights the eye, that dazzles or soothes or sparks deeper cogitation in the mind, that does any or all of those things. It's time for "Chill," because the show is up for another month and because it's never *not* time to witness the beauty and ingenuity and documentation of reality, objective or otherwise, as rendered by artists as talented as the ones represented here.

(Maybe you've been to D Berman before, if only in your better opium fever-dreams, and so the huge room bisected by a free-standing wall is familiar to you. Maybe some of the works displayed are familiar, too, as this is a sort of retrospective of some of the best the gallery's offered in the recent past.)

In any case, behold: Cynthia Camlin's delicate watercolor renditions of icebergs, the parts we always see and the parts normally occluded by icy brine, their myriad facets defining and redefining what we mean by the words "blue" and "green" and "shadow" and "translucent."

Behold: Steve Wiman's arrangements of natural litter and humanity's abused and discarded everyday objects, laid out with the compelling precision of a Dorling Kindersley volume on material waste.

Behold: The sublime sculptures that Jennifer Maestre, inspired by sea urchin forms, builds from pencils – simple, yellow pencils – to achieve a divinity of curves and depths you'd think were beyond such quotidian instruments.

Behold: The modern sculptural landscapes that Leslie Mutchler has wrought toward illustrating the dovetails of human architectural order and relentless worldly chaos.

Behold: Sara Frantz's beautiful graphite renditions of sere and serene vistas marked by human shelter in Iceland and West Texas, Raychael Stine's photorealistic dogs hounding among and confounded by wild swaths of paint, Sydney Yeager's turbulent abstractions like stills from a horror movie about a hard-copy inbox possessed by Freddy Krueger.

Beauty is in the eye of the beholder, so they say, and it's also in this fine exhibition at D Berman Gallery this winter, offering you an opportunity to brighten the beginning of 2010 with art while you simply, as the title slyly suggests, "chill." – *Wayne Alan Brenner*

theatre

OPENING

SURFIN' UFO The Electronic Planet Ensemble, who brought you last season's *Spaceman:Dada:Robot*, present this latest video-enhanced, live-music spectacle, with **Sergio Samayoa** on guitar, **Chad Salvata** on keyboards, and **David Jewell** providing the verbal volleys about the gnarlier side of Planet X, 2012, crop circles, Roswell, ancient astronauts, UFO sightings, and alien abductions. "The Anunnaki are knocking at your door, and one of them looks just like Brigitte Bardot." Bonus: UFO mail-art show in the lobby. *Thu.-Sun., Jan. 8-24, 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. $10-30.* **www.electronicplanetensemble.com**.

NUNSENSE II Up in Georgetown, the Palace Theatre's cast of 2007's *Nunsense* returns in this habit-kicking sequel penned by Dan Goggins. Directed by Ron Watson. *Jan. 8-Feb. 7. Fri.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Georgetown Palace Theatre, 810 S. Austin Ave., 512/869-7469. $22 ($20, seniors; $12, students, military; $8, ages 15 and younger).* **www.georgetownpalace.com**.

EURYDICE This is Sarah Ruhl's acclaimed adaptation of the Orpheus myth as a modern dramatic comedy, brought to the lighted boards by the Different Stages company under the direction of Karen Jambon. Lord of the underworld? Check. Chorus of stones? Good to go. Timeless love story? But of course! *Jan. 8-30. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 474-8497. $15-30.* **www.citytheatreaustin.org**.

RUTH MARGRAFF & CAFE ANTARSIA Acclaimed playwright Ruth Margraff and her band Cafe Antarsia serenade the audience at Salvage Vanguard after a staged reading of her new parlor play, *Over the Garden Wall*, directed by Jenny Larson. Come face the new year with an Old Fashioned and fierce folk cabaret with streaks of Greek blues, Balkan gypsy rhythm, and working-class fire. Recommended. *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 8-9, 8pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. $10.* **www.salvagevanguard.org**.

OEDIPUS REX Japhy Fernandes and his irrepressible Austin Drama Club presents this classic Greek tragedy, directed by Erin Jo. As ever, e-mail for location and details. *Thu.-Sat., Jan. 8-30, 8pm.* **japhyfernandes@live.com**.

VERDICT OF LOVE Ann Ciccolella directs some of Austin's finest actors in this reading of her adaptation of Nat Hawthorne's last novel, a 19th century, Rome-based romance of the redemption that love can bring. Refreshments are included in this fundraiser for Austin Shakespeare. Call for location and details. *Sun., Jan. 10, 4pm. 470-4505. $35.* **alex@austinshakespeare.org**.

MANCHILD IN THE WASTELAND This is Barton Guy Bryan's one-man show about his years working for the Peace Corps in West Africa. *Sun., Jan. 10, 3pm; Tue., Jan. 12, 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. $20-30.* **www.vortexrep.org**.

COCO PERU TAKES ON TEXAS The much-lauded drag queen from NYC gets her cowgrrl on, so to speak, in this evening of sassy songs, amusing anecdotes, and autobiographical stories. *Thu., Jan. 14, 8-10pm. Rusty Spurs, 403 E. Seventh. $30 ($25, in advance).* **www.cocoperutakesontexas.com**.

GILBERT & SULLIVAN CHORUS SINGALONG Join in with this evening of singing classic choruses, presented by the Gilbert & Sullivan Society of Austin. *Mon., Jan. 11, 7:30pm. Genesis Presbyterian Church, 1507 Wilshire, 472-4772. Free.* **www.gilbertsullivan.org**.

THE COLOR PURPLE This "soul-stirring" musical spectacular, brought to Austin by Texas Performing Arts, is based on Alice Walker's Pulitzer-winning novel *and* Steven Spielberg's film, and is presented under the aegis of Oprah Winfrey. Better firepower than that, a production doesn't need. *Jan. 12-17. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 & 8pm; Sun., 2 & 7:30pm. Bass Concert Hall, 23rd Street & Robert Dedman Drive, UT campus, 471-1444. $20-69.* **www.utpac.org**.

FronteraFest 2010

This 17th annual festival of theatre gets under way at (of course) Hyde Park Theatre with (as you know) the Short Fringe schedule of five short shows per night before branching off into other avenues and larger swaths of performance throughout the month of January. See "The FronteraFest Way," p.24, for more, and check the Hyde Park website for news and details, yes, but also see here for what's up first:

Tue., Jan. 12, 8pm: Just Eat Johnny by Jericho Thorpe and Leah Moss; **Nattie: At the DMV** by Natasha Sanchez; **Something Like Loneliness** by Ryan Dowler; **Party in the Desert** by Cecilia Brie Walker; **Christian U2ber** by Tom Truss.

Wed., Jan. 13, 8pm: Packing Memories by Allison Orr Block; **Whistle** by Meg Haley; **Things in Life** by Ben Prager; **We Are All Volunteers** by John M. Meyer; **Saint Matilda's Malady** by Kyle John Schmidt.

Thu., Jan. 14, 8pm: Damas, Dramas, and Ana Ruiz by Belinda Acosta; **Donkeyskins** by Georgia Young; **Where Am I?** by Kate Cleary; **Incantations** by Philip Kreyche; **John Brown From BOB** by Stuart Hersh. *Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY.* **www.hydeparktheatre.com**.

CLOSING

THE SANTALAND DIARIES This music-spiced staging of David Sedaris' popular tale of a reluctant Macy's Christmas elf is directed by Dave Steakley and features an effervescent **Espie Randolph** as the child-besieged Crumpet. Here's a thoroughly enjoyable performance that goes beyond its source materi0al and will make you believe in the joy of holiday cynicism all over again. *Through Jan. 10. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541. $20-45.* **www.zachscott.com**.

DINNER THEATRE

THE LINGUINI CODE Gary Payne and his madcap Capital City Mystery Players present a humor-laced, interactive murder mystery in which you, the audience, have to unravel the pasta-business riddles around which the fatal crime is committed. Naturally, with full-course Italian fare to dine on. *Sat., Jan. 9, 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. $33.50.* **www.meatballs.com**.

AUDITIONS

TEATRO VIVO: KEEPING TRACK Actors are needed for this Erica Saenz comedy, to be presented in April at Salvage Vanguard. Seeking: males, Caucasian and Hispanic (ages 30-40); females, Hispanic (ages 30-40); female, Hispanic, (age 60-70). Knowledge of Spanish a plus. Actors compensated. Call for appointment; bring headshot and résumé. *Tue.-Wed., Jan. 12-13, 7-9pm. 474-6369.* **www.teatrovivo.org**.

CHANTEUSE is a new musical about folk singers in 1960s Greenwich Village. Needed: Two women (ages 20-40) who can act, play guitar, and sing and one man (age 40-60) who can act and sing are needed for the April production at Cafe Caffeine. See website and call for details. *Sun.-Mon., Jan. 10-11, 6:30pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary, 973-3885.* **www.caliche.net**.

SLEEPING BEAUTY Vortex Repertory Company needs an actor to play the King in this musical fairy tale by Bonnie Cullum and Content Love Knowles, based on the Brothers Grimm story, for a run in April and May. Seeking: male (age 30-50), strong voice, good singer and actor, strong and charismatic presence, team player. Stipend: $250. Call for appointment. *Sat., Jan. 16. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282.* **www.vortexrep.org**.

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Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy, visual arts. **brenner@austinchronicle.com**.

Robi Polgar, performance art, dance, classical. **dance-classical@austinchronicle.com**.

Ric Williams, litera. **litera@austinchronicle.com**.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, Listings editor. **brenner@austinchronicle.com**.

comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. Daily, 7pm-1am. **www.capcitycomedy.com**.

Matt Braunger Man's supposed to be funny, supposed to be *real* funny, whether he's going on about Dalmatians, owls, or the absurd human animals he's dealt with. Successful gigs at Montreal's Just for Laughs Festival, appearances on the Letterman show, *MADtv*, and more: Evidence, friend, evidence *in the bag*. **Matt Willis** will try to match Braunger's awesomeness. *Jan. 13-16. Wed.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm*.

Ryan Hamilton This touring stand-up man's won himself a couple of national comedy contests, no wonder Cap City's got him leading off the new year. With **Bryan Gutman** opening. *Jan. 7-9. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm*.

Cap City Open Mic Hey, it could be *you* up there slaying your friends and neighbors as they've slain you. *Sundays, 8pm. Free with college ID.*

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803-B Airport, 524-2807. **www.coldtownetheater.com**.

This week: The fierce improv artists of **Parallelogramophonograph** bring their inspired antics to the local stage, abetted by **the Draft**. *Thu., 8pm*. **UpTowne** Sketch comedy, homegrown. *Thu., 10pm*. **Eye for an iPhone** is a Second City-style sketch show led by the talented and happily hirsute **Dave Buckman**. *Fri., 8pm*. **Punchline** Stand-up comedy, ColdTowne style: Some of Austin's best. *Fri., 10pm*. **Free Night of Sketch Comedy** No shit, ColdTowne's featuring the best sketch in Austin, a plethora of comics and troupes who are hereby auditioning for Montreal's Just for Laughs Festival. Some of the best sketch you can see anywhere, we reckon, and *it's free. Sat., 8pm*. **The Late Night Show** sizzles with **Midnight Society** and **Nice Astronaut**. Sat., *11pm*. **ColdTowne All-Stars** is a free show with the, ah, all-stars of ColdTowne. *Sun., 7pm*. **Murphy and the Jam** is *also free. Sun., 8:30pm*.

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. **www.esthersfollies.com**.

Esther's Follies Esther's popular jesters are starting the New Year off with their musical satire and lively vaudeville, Texas-style! The magic of Ray Anderson, topical satires on the news of the day, and musical production numbers begin this decade in hilarity right there on Sixth Street. Reservations highly recommended. *Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. $20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military). Additional $5 for special reserved seats.*

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 443-3688. **www.hideouttheatre.com**.

Thursday: Oh, how **Threefer Madness** brings you a trio of improv troupes! Oh, how they work without a script! *8pm. $3*.

Friday This Week Tonight brings you fast and furious improv based on current headlines, slicing and dicing the latest scandals and more. *8pm. $10.* **The Double Barrel** features two troupes of the-devil-only-knows-what for your late-night amusement. *10pm. $10.*

Saturday: Austin Secrets Every week, an improvisational exploration of the hidden things that define who we are, based on secrets sent in anonymously by your friends and neighbors – maybe by *you*. It's off the cuff and in your lives. And recommended. *8pm. $10.* **Maestro** is a fierce, elimination-style battle for supremacy among improvisers, scored by *you*, the audience, sure to bring out the wackiest. *10pm. $10.*

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116. **www.thevelveetaroom.com**.

Jimmie Roulette Hometown favorite and hard-touring comic Roulette starts the Cheese Palace's new decade off right with his funny, funny stuff. **Andrea Grimes** and **Mason Lerner** open. *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 8-9, 9:30 & 11:30pm*.

BUT WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

THE NEW MOVEMENT They've taught and they've wrought and they're ever so hawt, and now – finally – it's time for acclaimed instructors Chris Trew and Tami Nelson to take their brand of hijinks to their own New Movement stage with talented friends and disciples. Yes, a regular ongoing series of shows, right there in the theatre next to Nubian Queen Lola's, in inimitable Chris 'n' Tami style. Let the comedy juggernaut proceed! *Jan. 14-16. Thu., 10:30pm; Fri., 7, 8:30, & 9:30pm; Sat., 8:30 & 9:30pm. New Movement Theater, 1819 Rosewood.* **www.newmovementtheater.com**.

THE AUSTIN COMEDY TRAINWRECK Stand-up comedy – right there in the Hole, on the Drag, in the heart of collegiate Texas. *Tuesdays, 10pm. Hole in the Wall, 2538 Guadalupe. $5.* **www.myspace.com/austincomedytrainwreck**.

KICK BUTT COMEDY Open Mic Comedy Bring it or have it brought *to* you, clever citizen. *Wednesdays, 8pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425*.

COMEDYSPORTZ Competitive improv? Yes, a vigorous battle between skilled improvisers – sort of like *Highlander*, but unscripted – and maestro **Les McGehee** and his talented friends bring it in full force each weekend to one of the sweetest little coffeehouses in the 78704. Also, variety shows! Live music! *Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary*.

FREE NIGHT OF SKETCH COMEDY Not to diss sketch comedy or the Austin sketch-comedy scene in general, but, hey, *this isn't just another night of sketch comedy*. This is likely the best the ATX has to offer, as it's also an audition for Montreal's Just for Laughs Festival. And, friend, *it's free*. Jeez, yeah, and it's at ColdTowne, so there aren't that many seats available, are there? Best to get there early, so you can catch **Your Terrific Neighbors**, **UpTowne**, **Dear Frailty**, and **Midnight Society** at *8pm*, then **Ghetto Sketch Warlock**, **Ramirez and Gilstrap**, **P! Company**, **Ratgirls**, and **ColdTowne Theater** at *9:30pm. Sat., Jan. 9. ColdTowne Theater, 4803-B Airport, 524-2807.* **www.coldtownetheater.com**.

SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIAL Two Gnap!tastic improv troupes, one after the other, for maximum compare-and-contrast opportunities of comedy styling and schools of prov-fu. This weekend, **Snackers presents Switcheroo!** and **Get Up**. *Sat., Jan. 9, 10pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. $10.* **www.salvagevanguard.org**.

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DAVID BATES

November 21, 2009—January 31, 2010

ALSO ON VIEW: New Works: Jade Walker | Collection Selections

TROUBLE THE WATER
Wednesday, January 13, 2010 | 7PM
Alamo Drafthouse–Ritz
Oscar-nominated documentary *Trouble the Water* (2008) tells the story of two hustlers who survive Hurricane Katrina to become heroes. Q&A with Austin cinematographer PJ Raval.

Downtown • 823 Congress Ave.
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Tuesday–Friday 10–5
Thursday 10–8
Saturday 10–6
Sunday Noon–5

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CRAIG HELLA JOHNSON AND HIS CONSPIRARE COMPANY OF GOLDEN THROATS BRING RICHARD STRAUSS TO GLORIOUS VOICE THIS WEEKEND.

dance

BIG RANGE DANCE FESTIVAL: CALL FOR CHOREOGRAPHERS The annual gathering of contemporary dance, movement-based performance art, and dance video that turns this city into an epicenter of creative kinesis – produced by Spank Dance Artistic Director Ellen Bartel – has four programs to choose from (and choreographers are compensated, yes). Out-of-towners are also welcome to apply. See website for details. Application deadline: *Jan. 30*. **www.bigrangeaustin.org**.

VOICE DANCE COMPANY Former Ballet Austin principal dancers Gina Patterson and Eric Midgley present their new artistic partnership: Voice Dance Company. This debut performance includes a world premiere by the award-winning choreographer Patterson, and the Austin premiere of her critically acclaimed "My Witness." *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 8-9, 8pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 302-3341. $30-45.* **www.voicedancecompany.org**.

TWO LEFT FEET

SECOND FRIDAY ENGLISH COUNTRY DANCING At this fragrance-free event, dances are called by expert teachers, so you can be a beginner and still enjoy this elegant form of dancing. No partner necessary! *Fri., Jan. 8, 7:30-10:00pm. Carpenters Hall, 400 Josephine. 266-9949. $6.*

classical music

OPENING

CONSPIRARE: A NEW YEAR'S CONSPIRARE CLASSIC A 38-member Conspirare ensemble ushers in the new decade with Richard Strauss' *Deutsche Motette*, an a cappella monument and one of the most demanding works in the entire choral canon, along with compositions by Romantic masters and song stylings of the Comedian Harmonists of pre-World War II Germany. Music educator Margaret Perry of Austin Lyric Opera gives a preconcert talk one hour before the Friday and Sunday performances. *Jan. 8-10. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 W. 15th, 476-5775. $38-42 ($10, students, in advance and by phone only).* **www.conspirare.org**.

GILBERT & SULLIVAN CHORUS SING-ALONG *Mon., Jan. 11. 512-472-4772. Free.* **gilbertsullivan.org**.

NOTES & ENCORES

AUSTIN YOUTH ORCHESTRA: STRING AUDITIONS FOR SPRING SEMESTER AYO seeks to fill strings spots in each of its five performing orchestras. Membership is open to all interested orchestra students in grades K-12 from public, private, charter, and home schools, who are members in good standing of their respective school orchestras. Students should prepare a solo piece or etude of their choice that demonstrates a maximum level of ability. Scales and sightreading may also be required. Tuition includes instruction and several performances throughout the year. See website for details. *Mon., Jan. 11, 6pm. Stephen F. Austin High School, 1715 W. Cesar Chavez. 463-9595. $100.* **www.austinyouthorchestra.com**.

visual arts

EVENTS

WEST END GALLERY NIGHT: FIRST THURSDAY Nine galleries within walking distance (and with ample parking) are bedecked with new works and awaiting your visit on this particular day each month. Venues include Art on 5th, F8 Gallery, Haven Gallery, Lotus Gallery, Russell Collection, Stephen L. Clark Gallery, Sterling Images, Wally Workman Gallery. See website for gallery map. *Thu., Jan. 7, 6-8pm. 478-4440.* **www.artaustin.org/westend.htm**.

OPENING

BIRDHOUSE: NICK HENNING The mixed media artist presents his latest show of works, "The Distancing Effect." *Reception: Sat., Jan. 9, 7-10pm. 1304 E. Cesar Chavez.* **www.birdhousegallery.com**.

CHILDHOOD: AN INTERNATIONAL PHOTO EXHIBITION The Texas Photographic Society presents an exhibition curated by the actress Jamie Lee Curtis. Exhibition: *Jan. 7-28*. Reception: *Thu., Jan. 14, 6-8pm. Butridge Gallery, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468.* **www.cityofaustin.org/dougherty/gallery.htm**.

REAL GALLERY: JAN AND ORION KNOX The husband-and-wife team present their paintings and photography of the great outdoors. *Through Feb. 7. 101 W. Sixth, 775-0458*. **www.realgalleryaustin.com**.

L. NOWLIN GALLERY: LOLI KANTOR The Fort Worth-based photographer presents "There Was a Forest: Jewish Life in Eastern Europe Today," featuring her documentary work portraying Holocaust survivors. Reception: *Sat., Jan. 9, 6-8pm*. Exhibition: *Through Feb. 27. 1202-A W. Sixth, 626-9301.* **www.lnowlingallery.com**.

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: A GRAND AFFAIR A group show, with all works priced less than a grand, opens the new year at this acclaimed gallery. Reception: *Sat., Jan. 9, 6-8pm*. Exhibition: *Through Jan. 30. 1202 W. Sixth, 472-7428.* **www.wallyworkmangallery.com**.

BAY 6 STUDIOS: J. HALEY "Mixed media drawings and paintings of stuff on stuff," promises the artist. So many things. Reception: *Sat., Jan. 9, 7-10pm*. Exhibition: *Through Jan. 24. 5305 Bolm.*

MONARCH EVENT CENTER: NEW YEAR NEW SHOW The Monarch in Lincoln Village has new owners, did you know, and they aim to do right by the ATX and its cultural brilliance. Exhibit A: This inaugural art show featuring work by **Christa Palazzolo**, **Ryan Davis**, and **Dustin Michael Pevey**. Opening party with live music from School Police and Pure Ecstasy: *Thu., Jan. 14, 7-10pm*. Exhibition: *Through March 26. 6406 N. I-35 #3100, 371-1711.* **www.themonarchtexas.com**.

CLOSING

VSA ARTS OF TEXAS: HOLIDAY SALE More than 20 artists represented with ornaments, collages, painting, drawings, sculptures, poetry, music, cards, magnets, prints, mobiles, jewelry, and more. *Through Jan. 9. 3710 Cedar #7, 454-9912*. **www.vsatx.org**.

DAVIS GALLERY: HOLIDAY GROUP SHOW This array of the gallery's stellar regulars – David Leonard, Julie Speed, Dianne Grammer, and Stella Alesi among them – also features new work by Susu Meyer and Caprice Pierucci. *Through Jan. 9. 837 W. 12th, 477-4929.* **www.davisgalleryaustin.com**.

STUDIO2GALLERY: TRANSLATIONS: NAVIGATING CULTURE THROUGH PAPER Juror and featured artist Benne Rockett presents new works from a group of artists from across the country who have explored the possibilities of expression via paper – as sculptural material or ground for color or, well, so *many* evocative forms in this excellent show. *Through Jan. 8. 1700 S. Lamar #318, 326-9102*. **www.studio2gallery.com**.

AMOA LAGUNA GLORIA: CASSANDRA JAMES "Earth, Fire, Wind, and Water" is an intimate exhibition of sketchbooks and paintings. *Through Jan. 10. 3809 W. 35th, 458-8191.* **www.amoa.org**.

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: NORIKO AMBE The New York-based artist wields surgical skill to transform already beautiful books into objects of even greater and surreal beauty. Curated by Glenn Fuhrman and highly recommended. *Through Jan. 9. 360 Nueces #50, 215-4965*. **www.lorareynolds.com**.

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: MY WICKED TWISTED SENSE OF LOVE A globally diverse group of artists presents works on paper, videos, sounds, and mixed-media installations exploring the nuances of personal relationships, the fear of dying alone, and emotional indifference. *Through Jan. 7. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064.* **www.womenandtheirwork.org**.

ONGOING

DIBONA STUDIO Oil paintings and "sculptural tattoos" by Joyce DiBona. *404 W. Milton, 851-2646*. **www.joycedibona.com**.

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and others. *12400 Amherst #102, 825-8577.* **www.eyecontactart.com**.

CHAN CHAN: PHOTOS AND PAINTINGS OF CUBA The photography of Piercarlo Abate and the paintings of Luis Abreux show a side of Cuba that's seldom seen. *81 San Marcos St.* **www.piercarloabate.com**.

AUSTIN GALLERIES: 20TH CENTURY MASTERS Original lithographs, etchings, intaglios, and screen prints by Marc Chagall, Salvador Dalí, Pablo Picasso, and more. *1219 W. Sixth*.

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a nonprofit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. *6601 Felix, 385-3591*. **www.serieproject.org**.

CECILIA LING: MY SECRET GARDEN Photography of natural aquatic scenes from Austin, France, China, and more. *Through Feb. 28. 360 Gallery, 6720 N. Cap. of TX Hwy, 346-6789.* **www.360galleryofaustin.org**.

ART IN A NUTSHELL This is the gallery of Ismael Cavazos, a Local Colorful Character and the creator of "The Old Man in the Peanut," featuring his creations involving scribbles, drip paintings, rocks, inkblots, and clouds. And work by *other artists*, too. *2209 S. First, 436-6551.* **www.ismaelcavazos.com**.

STUDIO C GALLERY: PONIES & PENGUINS New works by Holly Bronko and Alexandra Valenti. *2309 Thornton*.

AUSTIN ART SPACE A variety of local artists. *7739 Northcross Ste. Q, 771-2868*. **www.austinartspace.com**.

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY Artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. *78 San Marcos, 457-0171.* **www.pablotaboadastudio.com**.

AUSTIN ART GLASS This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art, classes, and more. *1608 S. Congress, 916-4527.* **www.austinartglass.com**.

AMOA: DAVID BATES AND JADE WALKER The large and expressive oil paintings of David Bates – vivid scenes of nature, near-documentary images (based on broadcast video) of the devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina – are paired with new sculptures and installations by Austin's own Jade Walker, she of UT's Creative Research Laboratory. *Through Jan. 31. 823 Congress, 495-9224.* **www.amoa.org**.

BLANTON MUSEUM: THE PETROBELLI ALTARPIECE This work by Venetian master Paolo Veronese (1528-1588) was recently identified as a fragment of the head of Saint Michael, the central figure in the so-called Petrobelli altarpiece from 1565. *Through Feb. 7. MLK & Congress, 471-7324.* **www.blantonmuseum.org**.

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS Unique handmade glass art and jewelry. *108 W. 43rd, 380-0770.* **www.austinbluemoon.com**.

THE CATHEDRAL OF JUNK is approximately 60 tons of junk wired together over 15 years to form intricate towers and rooms in the backyard of a South Austin home. Hours: *Saturdays and Sundays, noon-9pm, or by appointment. 4422 Lareina, 299-7413.* **www.keepaustinweird.com**.

D BERMAN GALLERY: CHILL Cold, shmold: This exhibition features work by a gathering of artists who know how to warm up a venue with intricate visual beauty: Cynthia Camlin, Sara Frantz, Jennifer Maestre, Leslie Mutchler, Raychael Stine, Steve Wiman, and Sydney Yeager. *Through Feb. 6. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877.* **www.dbermangallery.com**.

DOMY BOOKS: LISA MARIE GODFREY The colorful drawings of the artist's new "Everyday Magik" exhibition brighten the walls of this bastion of brilliant publications and art objects. *Through Jan. 21. 913 E. Cesar Chavez, 476-3669.* **www.domystore.com**.

MITCHIE'S FINE BLACK ART presents an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork. *7801 N. Lamar Ste. B-148, 323-6901.* **www.mitchie.com**.

MUSEUM OF NATURAL & ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA A curator-led tour of this museum's quirky and delightful "Impermanent Collection" is one of the hidden wonders of Austin. Tours: *Saturdays, 1-4pm. 1808 Singleton, 320-0566.* **www.mnae.org**.

SPACES

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY Stained and leaded glass and mosaics. *701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266*. **www.decola-eusebi.com**.

CHINATOWN New works by Matt Bowman, Zita Raymond, Phillip Wade, and Allison Young. *Through Jan. 15. 107 W. Fifth, 637-8888.*

EASTSIDE BOOKS Currently showing works by Patrick King, Ramon Lozano, and John Metcalf. *2415 E. Fifth. 472-2665.* **www.eastsidebooksaustin.com**.

PICTURING AMERICA FROM EAST TO WEST Photographs of America and its art, in a periodically changing display. *Through May. Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Dr., 989-3188.* **www.wblibrary.org**.

CAFFE MEDICI: LANCE ROSENFIELD New photography. *1101 West Lynn, 569-0432.* **www.rosenfieldphotography.com**.

WESTS Artwork by Dan-Ramone Vivan Chavez, Raquel Reyes, and others. *408 Josephine.*

WET: JESMINDA COLE Paintings, bones, plaster, and lead. Oh, oh my. *1109 S. Congress, 444-7375.*



LOLI KANTOR'S PHOTOGRAPHY – *REBE HOFFMAN*, SHOWN HERE – BRIGHTENS THE L. NOWLIN GALLERY.



ALI CAVANAUGH'S *UNINTENDED PAUSE* IS PART OF THE 'GRAND AFFAIR' AT WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY.

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

STUDIO2GALLERY: CALL FOR ENTRIES This exhibition, juried by Mo Scollan for a March presentation, is open to all styles. Artwork submitted must have been executed within the last 3 years to be eligible. See website for details and application. Deadline: *Feb. 1.* **www.studio2gallery.com**.

THE ABCS OF ACRYLIC PAINTING No less an awesome artist than Fidencio Duran teaches this basic class on still life, figure drawing, and landscape painting methods using acrylic paint as a preferred medium. *Wed., Jan. 13, 7-8:30pm. 600 River St., 478-6222. $10 per class.* **www.maccaustin.org**.

litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

DIANA FLEMING AND TERESA SHERARD pile on the fiber with *The Full Plate Diet*. *Wed., Jan. 13, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.* **www.bookpeople.com**.

SAN ANTONIO AUTHOR LEILA MEACHAM delivers her East Texas take on hardheaded women in her novel *Roses*. *Mon., Jan. 11, 7pm. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.* **store-locator.barnesandnoble.com**.

AGNES EVA SAVICH AND ALLYSON WHIPPLE get close to distance with their respective works, the free verse collection *The Watcher* and the novella *A Scandal of Choice*. *Sun., Jan. 10, 3pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. 105-A, 472-2785.* **www.ebookwoman.com**.

INTIMATE SOUL is a sultry poetry and spoken-word party, inviting you to share your UnProtected Poetry and check out spoken-word artist Chaundra Washington and visual artist/poet Richard Jones. *Sat., Jan. 9, 8pm. Studio 132, 5811 Berkman, 524-1494. Free.*

GARY GIBBS tests the quantum gods in his new science-fiction fantasy, *Beyond Olympus*. *Sat., Jan. 9, 2pm. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.* **store-locator.barnesandnoble.com**.

LARRY SMITH AND RACHEL FERSHLEISER reveal – in a collection of six-word memoirs by the famous and not-so-famous – how the nature of moments is essential to character, in *It All Changed in an Instant*. *Fri., Jan. 8, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.* **www.bookpeople.com**.

ELIZABETH LUNDAY conducts the *Secret Lives of Great Composers*. *Thu., Jan. 7, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.* **www.bookpeople.com**.

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

SISTERS IN CRIME features speaker Pat Ricks discussing the Greatest Mystery: Three Hours Research for Three Lines. *Sun., Jan. 10, 2pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652. Free.* **www.hotxsinc.org**.

NORTH AUSTIN KNITTERS meet weekly to knit and discuss great books. *Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.*

BOOKGODDESS BOOKGROUP *Switching to Goddess* by Jeri Lynn Studebaker. *Sun., Jan. 10, 1pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. 105-A, 472-2785.* **www.ebookwoman.com**.

GRAVEYARD TALES CLUB *Bad Place* by Dean Koontz. *Wed., Jan. 13, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.* **www.bookpeople.com**.

AAIM BOOK CLUB chariot it up to view the cosmos of *The Bhagavad Gita*. *Mon., Jan. 11, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.*

OPEN MICS

FRIDAY NIGHT MIC for poetry, music, drama, and stories. Hosted by Bear Man Poet. *Fridays, 8-10pm. JP's Java, 2803 San Jacinto.*

GENUINE JOE *Thursdays, 7:30-10pm. Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576.* **www.genuinejoe.com**.

THE HIDEOUT is hosted by Thom Moon 10 and features Eric Breland adding energy and originality to the mix. *Mondays, 7-10pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 476-0473. $2 (or canned food for Poets Pantry).* **www.hideouttheatre.com**.

HOT MAMA'S OPEN MIC *Tuesdays, 7:30-9pm. Hot Mama's Espresso Bar, 2401 E. Sixth, 476-MAMA.* **www.myspace.com/hotmamasespresso**.

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry and a rotating group of slam ninjas captain the crew that has all the best of stand-up, pomo theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one cosmic-heat blast. *Wednesdays, 8pm. The Independent at 501 Studios, 501 N. I-35, 485-3001. $5 (21 and older).* **www.austinslam.com**.

JAVA GARDEN is a new poetry venue for the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Hosted by Lee Leteef, bringing it to the Riverside. *Sun., Jan. 10, 6-8pm. Java Gardens, 1717 Pleasant Valley #280, 385-8858.*

SPOKEN & HEARD Bring words, make noise, bring yourself, make friends. ASL Sign Language interpreter available. Hosted by The Crew. *Sundays, 7-10pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425.* **www.kickbuttcoffee.com**.

LA TAZZA FRESCA A new year and, yes, there be poetry in the future! Hosted by Kathleen Romana each second and fourth Friday. *Fri., Jan. 8, 7-9pm. La Tazza Fresca, 519 W. 37th, 371-5383.* **latazzafresca@earthlink.net**.

RUTA MAYA POETRY is one of the longest-running weekly open mics in Texas. Hosted by David Bates. *Tuesdays, 6-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637.* **www.rmpoetryaustin.com**.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

ARDENT! POETRY IN THE ARTS seeks your poetry submissions. Poems not used will be destroyed, not returned. Include "permission to use" statement with submissions. Include name, complete mailing address, e-mail, and telephone with submission and any subsequent correspondence. Send up to three unpublished poems for consideration to: *Dillon McKinsey, 1909 Hollow Ridge Dr., Cedar Park, TX 78613-6729.* **rimer777@gmail.com**.

2010 AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL POETRY FESTIVAL calls for submissions for its youth poetry anthology from kids in grades K-12. Deadline: *Feb. 1.* **aipfya@sbcglobal.net**.

MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! *crimson bloodlight bleaching the dark blue clouds, the buses are still running tonight & he remembers his laugh, how he quoted Homer – the rosy fingers of dawn. the weather men say it is a wintry mix. the seagulls do not call. his eyes weep in the wind, a cigarette tight in his fingers. he once owned a pair of alpaca gloves, a present from someone he thinks is dead or how she falls asleep on the couch as he drives. every night is silent he thinks, every one holy & the road is very old*. Namaste. Make mischief!

POEM OF THE ISSUE

there was a cactus in the pool again

so the ducks wouldn't land

and the sky was pink green and orange

we knew we should go inside

but old music from our childhood played

and we stayed out

watching the smoke from the wigwams

catching splinters in our hands

and sparks in our eyes

we wandered down to the end of the earth

and dove right in

– Guy Thomas, "Butterscotch Jackknife"

film listings



Crazy Heart

D: Scott Cooper; with Jeff Bridges, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Robert Duvall, Jack Nation, Ryan Bingham, Colin Farrell. (R, 111 min.)

You'd never guess that *Crazy Heart* is the work of a first-time filmmaker, but it is, and while the story is as old and true as the broken-down country & western balladeer at the heart of it, nearly everything about Cooper's debut feels intimate and immediate and as emotionally raw as every country song that ever mattered. That's due almost entirely to Bridges' searing and sorrowful turn as the alcohol-basted and nicotine-stained C&W has-been Bad Blake. It's a performance that's magnificent in its road-weariness, and it's a measure of just how truly great an actor Bridges has matured into over the years since he first hit pay dirt in *The Last Picture Show* almost four decades ago. He's been this brilliant before, but always in exactingly different ways – *The Fabulous Baker Boys*, *The Big Lebowski*, and *The Fisher King* snipe, shuffle, and gallop immediately to mind – and if the four-time Oscar nominee doesn't get the nod this time, well, life's a bitch and someone should write a bluesy, boozy country song about it. Luck is one thing Bad Blake hasn't much left of, though. Paunchy and 57 and looking an awful lot like Kris Kristofferson on a permanent weekend bender, Blake divides his time between playing bowling alley pickup gigs in New Mexico backwaters and keeping himself soused enough to forget both the promise of his past and the downward spiral of his present. His situation changes, possibly for the better, when a semisober show in Santa Fe nets him an interview with a local journalist and single mother (Gyllenhaal) who takes a more-than-professional shine to the old hoss. Then, too, there's the itchy issue of Blake's wounded pride at seeing his one-time protégé, the pseudo-Nashvillian Tommy Sweet (Farrell, who is unbilled), cresting on the same wave of alt.country popularity that Blake long ago lost in the riptide of cheap hooch and cheaper one-night stands. The question then – and it's been answered a million times before, but rarely with such scruffy, exacting eloquence – is who is Bad Blake going to love more: the lady or the tequila? Gyllenhaal, to her credit, nearly matches Bridges in intensity here, although why a pretty young journo like her would ever fall for this rotgut country strummer is a mystery that's never fully addressed or answered. No matter. Backed (and haunted) by a blazingly fine soundtrack courtesy of T Bone Burnett and the late Stephen Bruton and a theme song (and screen appearance) by rising star Ryan Bingham, Bridges makes this sozzled and desperate ex-desperado – a cliché by any other name – as fresh and vital as one final shot at cowboy-poet redemption. It may sound crazy, but it's true. (See"Crossover Artist," p.37, for an interview with Ryan Bingham.) – *Marc Savlov*

★★★½ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor

new reviews

BROKEN EMBRACES

D: Pedro Almodóvar; with Penélope Cruz, Lluís Homar, Blanca Portillo, José Luis Gómez, Rubén Ochendiano, Tamar Novas, Ángela Molina, Rossy de Palma. (R, 127 min., subtitled)

Ever the lush and melodramatic filmmaker, Almodóvar appears to be adding a bit of narrative suspense to his storytelling in *Broken Embraces*. Starring his longtime muse Cruz, the film is about mad love and its consequences, but *Broken Embraces* is as much about the art of filmmaking as anything else. It takes place in the past and the present and features characters who assume different names as the story progresses. Although it's not particularly hard to follow, the story is convoluted, and the visuals (by acclaimed cinematographer Rodrigo Prieto, working for the first time with Almodóvar) are rich, color-drenched, and intricate. This is a movie I wish there had been an opportunity to see a second time before having to write a review. *Broken Embraces* is also thematically layered. Its central figure is a once-successful Spanish filmmaker named Matteo Blanco (Homar) until an accident 14 years prior to the start of the movie took the life of his lover, Lena (Cruz), and blinded him. Afterward, he renamed himself Harry Caine and became a novelist. The plot kicks into gear when a young man named Ray X (Ochendiano) comes to Harry for help writing a screenplay, and it soon becomes apparent that Ray is the son of Ernesto Martel (Gómez), the man who produced the film Harry/Mateo was working on when the accident occurred. Lena had been the live-in consort of the rich and much older Ernesto when he sent her to screen-test for Harry/Mateo's film. Lena and the film director fell in love instantly, a development that gummed up his completion of the film. At times, it looks as though *Broken Embraces* might be the love child of Douglas Sirk and Alfred Hitchcock, with its dramatic broad strokes, iconic reds, and teasing narrative clues. In the third act, events seem to pile on at an excessive rate and the subplots also come into greater play. The experience can be heady and delirium-provoking, but hey, that's cinema for you. – *Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★½ Arbor

DAYBREAKERS

D: Michael Spierig, Peter Spierig; with Ethan Hawke, Willem Dafoe, Claudia Karvan, Sam Neill, Michael Dorman, Isabel Lucas, Jay Laga'aia. (R, 98 min.)

Tell any ex-smoker he has a day left to live, and I guarantee first stop will be the nearest convenience store for his preferred brand of carcinogens. The populace of *Daybreakers* has even less time – they're already dead, in fact; vampires, the lot of 'em – which explains why everyone smokes like a chimney. It's a topsy-turvy world where children bus to school at 2 in the morning and the local coffeehouse slings blood like java brew. But the vampire community is in crisis: With humans hunted to near extinction, there's a serious food shortage, which is why hematologist Edward Dalton (Hawke) labors round the clock to come up with a blood substitute. (No luck yet: His most recent experiment ends in a gory head-spattering of the test subject.) Dalton is a mournful, moral-high-horse kind of guy who gets by on animal blood and hates the rah-rah militarism of his little brother Frankie (Dorman, one of several Australian actors recruited by fellow Aussies Michael and Peter Spierig, a writing/directing team of brothers). When a small enclave of human resistance rightly senses Dalton is a sympathizer, he goes off the grid to help manufacture a cure to vampirsm so improbably stumbled upon it might as well have been tied to a kite and sent out for a lightning strike. It's a little bit silly – as is Dafoe's Kentucky-fried cowboy mechanic named Elvis – but silly is fun. In fact, one wishes it were sillier still; *Daybreakers* is an ingeniously conceived, designed, and dressed piece, but whither the sex and the humor, huh? For laughs, Hawke's ill-fitting fedora will have to do (it rides so high on his head, one wonders if there's a Bumpit underneath). There's no shortage of memorable images, from a human farm that recalls *Coma*'s creepy, hanging human shells to a shackled death march into sunlight, and the Spierigs have included some interesting philosophical flourishes. I'm not sure they entirely come to fruition, but the filmmakers must be planning a franchise: How else to explain the rushed ride off into the sunset? – *Kimberley Jones*

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

HARMONY AND ME

D: Bob Byington; with Justin Rice, Kevin Corrigan, Pat Healy, Kristen Tucker, Alex Karpovsky, Chris Doubek, Margie Beegle, Allison Latta, Bill Wise. (NR, 72 min.)

Harmony (Rice) a is tuneful guy, but he's not blending well. He's stuck on his old girlfriend Jessica (Tucker, who is also one of the film's producers), and he unloads his heartbreak on anyone who will listen. He recites his breakup woes with liturgical precision, although every time we hear him repeat the same phrases to a new listener, they are delivered with a little less confidence, a little less certainty in the words' ritualistic powers. Set in Austin, writer/director Byington's fourth indie film follows Harmony as he ambles about from his vaguely sketched tech job to visits with friends and family members, piano lessons (taught by Jerm Pollet), and attendance at a wedding and a funeral. And should these things not provide grist for enough narrative action, Harmony even slips into a coma for a bit. I know this description makes *Harmony and Me* sound deceptively as though it were this week's entry in the insufferably talky, low-budget, hipster-heartbreak film derby. However, nothing could be further from the truth. *Harmony and Me* is funny. The dialogue and performances are sharp and amusing; the shambling pace provides an arena for observational backbeats and conversational fillips (as when a friend describes Harmony, long before his comatose episode, as suffering from "an acute form of stasis"). Appropriately, Rice (who also starred in Andrew Bujalski's pillar of



mumblecore, *Mutual Appreciation*, and is the frontman for the band Bishop Allen) has a shaggy-dog presence. Occasionally, you may want to rap Harmony on the nose with a rolled-up newspaper but it's really for his own good. A few other crew members, including Byington, pull double duty in onscreen roles as well as off-, and musician Bob Schneider has a notable cameo as a wedding singer who hits on the bride. Although Austinites may recognize some familiar locales in the film, it will be due to happenstance rather than any sense of the filmmaker calling attention to various spots. In fact, the film appears as though it could have been shot in any urban American center. While the film's cinematography (by Jim Eastburn) is undistinguished, I suspect that's part of the intent, helping to create an aura of Anytown, USA, a place where words can carry as much weight as emotions. *Harmony and Me*, although titled after an Elton John song, has more in common musically with its signature song, "Government Center" by Jonathan Richman, a song that builds from a workaday premise to a rollicking good time. The film's charms are, ultimately, tough to describe, so I'll paraphrase the words Harmony uses to describe his lost girlfriend: "It has a certain ineffable quality that I think is rare." (For more, see the *Chronicle*'s interview with Byington, "Things Are What You Make of Them," Oct. 23, 2009, which ran when *Harmony and Me* premiered locally at the Austin Film Festival.) *Opens Sunday.* (Byington will be present at all screenings.) – *Marjorie Baumgarten*
★★★½ Alamo Drafthouse South

THE IMAGINARIUM OF DOCTOR PARNASSUS
D: Terry Gilliam; with Heath Ledger, Christopher Plummer, Tom Waits, Lily Cole, Andrew Garfield, Verne Troyer, Johnny Depp, Colin Farrell, Jude Law. (PG-13, 122 min.)

Christopher Plummer is delightful as this movie's master magician and impresario of the rickety Imaginarium, a traveling road show that features a mirrorlike portal into one's unconscious, but the real Parnassus here is Terry Gilliam. In what has almost become his signature m.o., Gilliam rescues his film from the jaws of disaster – this time when his star Heath Ledger died abruptly midway through filming. Concocting a scenario that almost works seamlessly, three actors – Depp, Farrell, and Law – were enlisted to play different aspects of Tony, the name of Ledger's character who entices people to part with their money and trip through the Imaginarium. Upon entering the Imaginarium, people see things as they want them to be rather than as they are (look in a mirror and you're young and thin), thus the multiple physical appearances of their guide Tony makes more than a soupçon of sense. No, this "continuity snafu" is not what undermines *The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus*. Instead, the problem resides with the story itself, or rather, the lack of story. Co-written with Charles McKeown, with whom Gilliam also wrote *Brazil* and *The Adventures of Baron Munchausen*, the scenario doesn't contain much activity beyond the initial setup. Millennia ago, Doctor Parnassus (Plummer) gained immortality in a deal with the Devil (here called Mr. Nick and played by Waits). This has compromised the future of his luscious daughter Valentina (Cole) and has made Parnassus' ramshackle sideshow seem an ever more obsolete attraction in the contemporary world. The troupe travels like circus performers in time-worn carts through the murk of both night and day, arriving at each destination to again pitch their tent and lure in more customers. In fact, the cloak of mist and darkness threatens to overcome the images at times. Yet wondrous and phantasmagoric sights await in the Imaginarium. Still, they haven't enough plot to give them purpose, making the center portion of the film seem visually overwhelming and indistinct. Gilliam and McKeown toss in lots of ideas about art and life but they are more throwaway one-liners than any sustained thought process. However, a new Gilliam film is always a good reason to go to the movies, and Ledger's final screen appearance is certainly more than a curiosity. – *Marjorie Baumgarten*
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, Dobie, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

openings & ratings

Broken Embraces (R)

Crazy Heart (R)

Daybreakers (R)

Harmony and Me (NR)

The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus (PG-13)

Leap Year (PG)

Youth in Revolt (R)

★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be
★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless
★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points
★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots
★ Poor, without any saving graces
💣 La bomba









showtimes FRIDAY, JANUARY 8 – THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE AT THE RITZ *320 E. Sixth, 476-1320.*
Action Pack: 1999 Sing-Along: Thu (1/14), 10:00pm
Collapse: Sun-Mon, 7:00pm
Weird Wednesday: *Kill Squad:* Wed, 12mid
Music Monday: *The Magic Christian:* Mon, 10:00pm
***The Monster Squad* (with guests in attendance):** Sat, 7:00, 9:50
Action Pack: *Pulp Fiction* Quote-Along: Thu (1/14), 7:00pm
Terror Tuesday: *Raw Force:* Tue, 10:00pm
Girlie Night: *Romy and Michele's High School Reunion:* Tue, 7:00pm
AMOA: *Trouble the Water:* Wed, 7:00pm
Youth in Revolt: Fri, 4:15, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30; Sat, 1:45, 3:00, 4:15, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sun, 1:45, 3:00, 4:15, 5:30, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30; Mon-Tue, 4:15, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Wed, 4:15, 5:30, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30; Thu (1/14), 4:15, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK *13729 Research, 219-5408.*
***Avatar* (3-D):** Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 12:00, 3:00, 4:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:45pm; Sun-Thu (1/14), 12:00, 2:30, 4:00, 6:45, 8:00, 10:30
The Blind Side: Fri-Sat, 3:30, 6:45, 9:50; Sun-Wed, 3:30, 7:00, 10:00; Thu (1/14), 3:30, 7:00
**Daybreakers:* Fri-Sat, 12:20, 3:10, 5:45, 8:30, 11:15; Sun-Thu (1/14), 1:00, 3:45, 7:10, 9:45
Did You Hear About the Morgans?: Fri-Sat, 12:45pm; Sun-Thu (1/14), 12:40pm
Cult Thursday: *Igor and the Lunatics:* Thu (1/14), 10:00pm
It's Complicated: Fri-Sat, 11:45am, 3:20, 6:30, 9:40pm; Sun-Thu (1/14), 12:15, 3:20, 6:30, 9:35
Sherlock Holmes: Fri-Sat, 1:10, 4:20, 7:45, 11:00; Sun-Thu (1/14), 12:50, 4:10, 7:30, 10:45
Up in the Air: Fri-Sat, 1:00, 4:10, 7:15, 10:10; Sun-Thu (1/14), 1:15, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH *1120 S. Lamar, 707-8262.*
***Avatar* (3-D):** Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 3:00, 7:00, 10:35pm; Mon, 3:00, 7:00, 10:35; Tue, 11:15am, 3:00, 7:00, 9:45pm; Wed-Thu (1/14), 3:00, 7:00, 10:35
AFS: *Cairo Station* and "Cairo as Seen by Chahine": Tue, 7:00pm
Crazy Heart: Fri, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:00, 7:30, 10:15pm; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15pm; Mon, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15; Tue, 12:00, 3:00, 7:15, 10:15; Wed-Thu (1/14), 4:30, 7:30, 10:15
Harmony and Me: Sun-Thu (1/14), 7:05pm
The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus: Fri, 12:40, 3:50, 7:00, 7:10, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 12:40, 3:50, 7:10, 10:05; Mon, 3:50, 7:10, 10:05; Tue, 1:00, 4:15, 7:30, 10:30; Wed-Thu (1/14), 3:50, 7:10, 10:05
It's Complicated: Fri, 12:45, 3:45, 7:05, 10:00; Sat, 1:00, 4:00, 7:05, 10:00; Sun, 12:45, 3:45, 9:30; Mon, 3:45, 9:30; Tue, 12:45, 3:45, 9:30; Wed-Thu (1/14), 3:45, 9:30
Up in the Air: Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 1:50, 4:35, 7:35, 10:25pm; Mon, 4:35, 7:35, 10:25; Tue, 11:05am, 1:50, 4:35, 10:25pm; Wed-Thu (1/14), 4:35, 7:35, 10:25

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE *2700 W. Anderson, 459-7090.* Tuesday matinee Baby Day shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old.
***Avatar* (3-D):** Fri, 1:05, 2:55, 6:45, 10:45; Sat-Sun, 11:35am, 2:55, 6:45, 10:45pm; Mon, 2:55, 6:45, 10:45; Tue, 1:05, 2:55, 6:45, 10:45; Wed, 6:45pm; Thu (1/14), 2:55, 6:45, 10:45
Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans: Mon-Tue, 10:30pm; Thu (1/14), 10:30pm
The Blind Side: Fri, 7:30pm; Sat-Sun, 6:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 7:30pm
**Daybreakers:* Fri, 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:55pm; Mon, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45; Tue, 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45; Wed-Thu (1/14), 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
Fantastic Mr. Fox: Fri, 12:30, 4:55; Sat-Sun, 3:25pm; Mon, 4:55pm; Tue, 12:30, 4:55; Wed-Thu (1/14), 4:55pm
***Pulp Fiction* Quote-Along:** Wed, 10:30pm
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
Sherlock Holmes: Fri, 12:45, 4:00, 7:10, 10:20, 10:35; Sat-Sun, 11:45am, 12:45, 4:00, 7:10, 9:10, 10:20pm; Mon, 4:00, 7:10, 10:20; Tue, 12:45, 4:00, 7:10, 10:20; Wed-Thu (1/14), 4:00, 7:10, 10:20

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS *9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742.* Discounts daily before 6pm and all day Wednesdays.
Broken Embraces: 12:00, 3:00, 7:10, 10:05
Crazy Heart: 11:45am, 12:50, 2:20, 5:00, 7:00, 7:40, 10:20pm
An Education: 3:20, 10:25
The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus: 12:20, 4:00, 7:20, 10:10
Nine: 12:10, 3:10, 6:40, 9:35
Precious: Based on the Novel 'Push' by Sapphire: 12:40, 7:50
Up in the Air: Fri, 12:30, 3:30, 4:10, 7:30, 10:15; Sat-Thu (1/14), 12:30, 3:30, 4:10, 7:30, 10:15
The Young Victoria: 1:00, 4:20, 6:50, 9:45

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) *Barton Creek Square mall, MoPac & Highway 360, 888/AMC-4FUN.* Matinee discounts available before 6pm on weekdays and before 4pm Friday through Sunday and holidays.
Sensory Friendly: *Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel:* Sat, 10:00am
Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel: Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 12:20, 2:35, 4:45, 7:00, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 12:30, 2:35, 4:45, 7:00, 9:20
Avatar: Fri-Sat, 12:25, 4:00, 7:30, 11:05; Sun, 12:25, 4:00, 7:30; Mon-Thu (1/14), 12:35, 4:00, 7:30
***Avatar* (3-D):** Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 2:55, 6:30, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:55, 6:30, 10:05
The Blind Side: Fri-Sun, 10:40am, 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40
Daybreakers: Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 12:35, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 12:35, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45
Did You Hear About the Morgans?: Fri-Wed, 2:05pm; Thu (1/14), 1:30pm
The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus: Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 1:25, 4:20, 7:15, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:25, 4:20, 7:15, 10:10
Invictus: 1:05, 7:05
It's Complicated: Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 1:55, 4:50, 7:45, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:55, 4:50, 7:45, 10:35
Leap Year: Fri-Sun, 11:50am, 2:25, 5:10, 7:50, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:25, 5:10, 7:50, 10:20
Nine: Fri-Sun, 10:35am, 4:10, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 4:10, 10:15
The Princess and the Frog: Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 1:45, 4:15, 6:50, 9:15pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:45, 4:15, 6:50, 9:15
Sherlock Holmes: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 5:00, 8:00, 11:00pm; Sun, 11:00am, 5:00, 8:00pm; Mon-Wed, 5:00, 8:00; Thu (1/14), 3:55, 10:25
***Sherlock Holmes* (closed captioned and descriptive video):** Fri-Sun, 9:45am, 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45

Up in the Air: Fri-Sun, 11:25am, 2:00, 4:35, 7:20, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:00, 4:35, 7:20, 10:00
Youth in Revolt: Fri-Sun, 10:50am, 1:15, 3:35, 6:05, 8:30, 10:55pm; Mon, 1:15, 3:35, 6:05, 8:30, 10:55; Tue-Thu (1/14), 1:15, 3:35, 6:05, 8:20, 10:30

CINEMARK CEDAR PARK *1335 E. Whitestone, 800/FANDANGO.*
Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel: Fri, 1:10, 2:20, 3:30, 5:50, 7:10, 8:10, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 10:40am, 12:00, 1:10, 2:20, 3:30, 5:50, 7:10, 8:10, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:10, 2:20, 3:30, 5:50, 7:10, 8:10, 10:30
Avatar: 1:20, 5:00, 8:30
Avatar* (3-D): Fri, 3:00, 6:40, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 3:00, 6:40, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 3:00, 6:40, 10:20
The Blind Side: 1:00, 4:00, 6:50, 9:50
**Daybreakers:* Fri, 2:50, 5:15, 7:40, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 12:20, 2:50, 5:15, 7:40, 10:15; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:50, 5:15, 7:40, 10:15
Opera: *Der Rosenkavalier:* Sat, 12:00pm
Did You Hear About the Morgans?: 4:40, 9:20
**Invictus:* Fri, 3:10pm; Sat-Sun, 12:10pm; Mon-Tue, 3:10pm
It's Complicated: 12:50, 4:10, 7:30, 10:10
**Leap Year:* Fri, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
The Princess and the Frog: Fri, 1:30, 3:50, 6:30, 8:50; Sat-Sun, 10:50am, 1:30, 3:50, 6:30, 8:50pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:30, 3:50, 6:30, 8:50
Sherlock Holmes: Fri, 1:40, 4:50, 6:10, 7:50, 9:10, 10:40; Sat-Sun, 10:30am, 1:40, 3:10, 4:50, 6:10, 7:50, 9:10, 10:40pm; Mon-Wed, 1:40, 4:50, 6:10, 7:50, 9:10, 10:40; Thu (1/14), 1:40, 3:10, 4:50, 6:10, 7:50, 9:10, 10:40
Up in the Air: Fri, 1:50, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00; Sat, 7:20, 10:00; Sun, 11:10am, 1:50, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:50, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00

CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA 14 *12812 Hill Country Blvd., 800/FANDANGO.*
Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel: Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 12:35, 1:45, 3:00, 4:15, 5:30, 6:50, 7:55, 9:15pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 12:35, 1:45, 3:00, 4:15, 5:30, 6:50, 7:55, 9:15
Avatar: Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 2:00, 3:15, 5:45, 7:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:00, 3:15, 5:45, 7:00
Avatar* (3-D): 12:45, 4:30, 8:15
The Blind Side: 12:50, 3:55, 6:55, 9:50
**Daybreakers:* Fri-Sun, 11:20am, 1:55, 4:40, 7:20, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:55, 4:40, 7:20, 10:05
Opera: *Der Rosenkavalier:* Sat, 12:00pm
Did You Hear About the Morgans?: 10:10pm
**Invictus:* 12:30pm
It's Complicated: 12:30, 3:50, 6:45, 9:55
**Leap Year:* Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:45
Nine: 9:30pm
The Princess and the Frog: Fri, 11:00am, 1:35, 4:10, 7:05, 9:25pm; Sat, 7:05, 9:25; Sun, 11:00am, 1:35, 4:10, 7:05, 9:25pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:35, 4:10, 7:05, 9:25
Sherlock Holmes: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 2:05, 3:30, 5:05, 6:30, 8:05, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:05, 3:30, 5:05, 6:30, 8:05, 9:40
Up in the Air: Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 1:50, 4:35, 7:15, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:50, 4:35, 7:15, 10:00
**Youth in Revolt:* Fri-Sun, 11:25am, 2:10, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:10, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15

CINEMARK MOVIES 8 ROUND ROCK *2120 N. Mays, Round Rock, 512/388-2848.* Discounts daily before 5pm.
Astro Boy: Fri, 1:50, 4:15, 7:30, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 11:15am, 1:50, 4:15, 7:30, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:50, 4:15, 7:30, 9:50
Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs: Fri, 1:30, 4:00, 7:10, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:30, 4:00, 7:10, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:30, 4:00, 7:10, 9:30
Couples Retreat: Fri, 3:45, 7:00, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 9:40; Mon-Thu (1/14), 3:45, 7:00, 9:40
Law Abiding Citizen: Fri, 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 11:05am, 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55
The Men Who Stare at Goats: Fri, 2:45, 5:00, 8:00, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 12:15, 2:45, 5:00, 8:00, 10:15; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:45, 5:00, 8:00, 10:15
Paranormal Activity: Fri, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:00; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:00
The Stepfather: Fri, 3:30, 6:45, 9:20; Sat-Sun, 12:20, 3:30, 6:45, 9:20; Mon-Thu (1/14), 3:30, 6:45, 9:20
Where the Wild Things Are: Fri, 2:15, 4:45, 7:40, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:40, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:15, 4:45, 7:40, 10:05

CINEMARK ROUND ROCK *4401 N. I-35, Round Rock, 800/FANDANGO.* Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a $3.50 premium.
**Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel:* Fri, 1:10, 1:50, 2:40, 3:40, 4:20, 5:10, 6:20, 7:30, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 9:45am, 10:30, 11:10, 12:10, 1:10, 1:50, 2:40, 3:40, 4:20, 5:10, 6:20, 7:30, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:10, 1:50, 2:40, 3:40, 4:20, 5:10, 6:20, 7:30, 9:50
Avatar: 12:45, 4:40, 8:20
Avatar* (3-D): Fri, 2:50, 6:30, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 2:50, 6:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:50, 6:30, 10:10
The Blind Side: Fri, 12:50, 3:50, 7:00, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 9:50am, 12:50, 3:50, 7:00, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 12:50, 3:50, 7:00, 10:05
**Daybreakers:* Fri, 2:20, 5:20, 8:00, 10:35; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:20, 5:20, 8:00, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:20, 5:20, 8:00, 10:35
Did You Hear About the Morgans?: 6:40, 9:30
**Invictus:* Fri, 3:00pm; Sat-Sun, 11:30am; Mon-Thu (1/14), 3:00pm
It's Complicated: Fri, 1:40, 4:50, 7:50, 10:40; Sat-Sun, 10:20am, 1:40, 4:50, 7:50, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:40, 4:50, 7:50, 10:40
**Leap Year:* Fri, 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 10:40am, 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00
Nine: 8:40pm
The Princess and the Frog: Fri, 1:20, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 10:50am, 1:20, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:20, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40
Sherlock Holmes: Fri, 1:00, 4:10, 6:10, 7:10, 9:20, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 10:00am, 1:00, 3:10, 4:10, 6:10, 7:10, 9:20, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:00, 4:10, 6:10, 7:10, 9:20, 10:20
Up in the Air: Fri, 2:00, 4:45, 7:35, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 10:10am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:35, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:00, 4:45, 7:35, 10:30
**Youth in Revolt:* Fri, 2:10, 5:00, 7:40, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:40, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:10, 5:00, 7:40, 10:25

CINEMARK SOUTHPARK MEADOWS *9900 S. I-35, 800/FANDANGO.* Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a $2.50 premium.
Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel: Fri, 12:00, 12:45, 2:20, 3:10, 4:00, 4:40, 5:30, 6:25, 7:00, 7:45; Sat-Sun, 10:20am, 11:10, 12:00, 12:45, 2:20, 3:10, 4:00, 4:40, 5:30, 6:25, 7:00, 7:45pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 12:00, 12:45, 2:20, 3:10, 4:00, 4:40, 5:30, 6:25, 7:00, 7:45
Avatar: Fri, 1:40, 5:10, 8:40; Sat-Sun, 10:10am, 1:40, 5:10, 8:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:40, 5:10, 8:40
Avatar* (3-D): 11:30am, 3:00, 6:30, 10:00pm
The Blind Side: Fri, 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 10:05am, 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:05, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05
**Daybreakers:* Fri, 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 9:55pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 9:55
Opera: *Der Rosenkavalier:* Sat, 12:00pm
Did You Hear About the Morgans?: 1:30, 8:45
It's Complicated: Fri, 1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 10:40am, 1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:25, 4:10, 6:55, 9:45
**Leap Year:* Fri, 1:10, 3:40, 6:35, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 10:30am, 1:10, 3:40, 6:35, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:10, 3:40, 6:35, 9:30
Nine: 10:10pm
The Princess and the Frog: Fri, 1:35, 4:35, 7:15, 9:35; Sat-Sun, 10:35am, 1:35, 4:35, 7:15, 9:35pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:35, 4:35, 7:15, 9:35
Sherlock Holmes: Fri, 11:40am, 1:00, 2:40, 3:55, 5:40, 7:10, 8:35, 10:15pm; Sat-Sun, 10:00am, 11:40, 1:00, 2:40, 3:55, 5:40, 7:10, 8:35, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 11:40am, 1:00, 2:40, 3:55, 5:40, 7:10, 8:35, 10:15pm
Up in the Air: Fri, 1:05, 3:50, 6:50, 9:40; Sat, 6:50, 9:40; Sun, 10:25am, 1:05, 3:50, 6:50, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 1:05, 3:50, 6:50, 9:40
**Youth in Revolt:* Fri-Sat, 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50; Sun, 10:15am, 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50

DOBIE THEATRE *2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM.*
Antichrist: Fri-Sun, 4:45, 10:10; Mon-Thu (1/14), 10:10pm
The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus: Fri, 4:15, 7:00, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:50; Mon-Thu (1/14), 7:00, 9:50
Me and Orson Welles: Fri, 4:10, 7:10, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 1:35, 4:10, 7:10, 9:45; Mon-Wed, 7:10, 9:45; Thu (1/14), 6:50, 9:30
The Road: Fri, 7:30pm; Sat-Sun, 2:15, 7:30; Mon-Thu (1/14), 7:30pm
Sherlock Holmes: Fri, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; Mon-Thu (1/14), 7:15, 10:00

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 *North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305.* No one under 18 will be allowed in the theatre on Friday and Saturday after 7pm without an adult.
Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel: Fri-Sat, 12:35, 2:50, 5:05, 7:20, 9:35, 11:50; Sun-Thu (1/14), 12:35, 2:50, 5:05, 7:20, 9:35
Avatar* (3-D): Fri-Sat, 12:30, 1:00, 3:45, 4:15, 7:00, 7:30, 10:15, 11:00; Sun-Thu (1/14), 12:30, 1:00, 3:45, 4:15, 7:00, 7:30, 10:15
Daybreakers: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 12:20, 2:10, 2:30, 4:35, 4:55, 7:00, 7:20, 9:25, 9:45, 11:50; Sun-Thu (1/14), 12:00, 12:20, 2:10, 2:30, 4:35, 4:55, 7:00, 7:20, 9:25, 9:45
It's Complicated: Fri-Sat, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30, 11:50pm; Sun-Thu (1/14), 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30pm
Leap Year: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35, 11:45; Sun-Thu (1/14), 12:05, 2:20, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35
The Princess and the Frog: 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
Sherlock Holmes: 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50, 10:00
Youth in Revolt: Fri-Sat, 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30, 11:30; Sun-Thu (1/14), 12:30, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

GATEWAY THEATRE *9700 Stonelake, between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 x3808.* Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a $3.50 premium.
***Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel* (open captioned and descriptive audio):** Fri, 11:45am, 6:40pm; Sat, 2:15, 9:20; Sun, 11:45am, 9:20pm; Mon, 11:45am, 6:40pm
**Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel:* Fri, 12:20, 2:15, 2:50, 4:30, 5:10, 9:20; Sat, 11:45am, 12:20, 2:50, 4:30, 5:10, 6:40pm; Sun-Mon, 12:20, 2:15, 2:50, 4:30, 5:10, 9:20; Tue-Thu (1/14), 11:45am, 12:20, 2:15, 2:50, 4:30, 5:10, 6:40, 9:20pm
Avatar: 11:30am, 3:00, 6:30, 9:50pm
Avatar* (3-D): Fri-Sun, 12:00, 12:30, 3:30, 4:00, 7:00, 7:30, 10:20, 10:45; Mon-Thu (1/14), 12:00, 12:30, 3:30, 4:00, 7:00, 7:30, 10:20
The Blind Side: 12:40, 4:15, 7:05, 10:25
Daybreakers: 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 8:15, 10:40
Did You Hear About the Morgans?: 7:20, 9:55
**Invictus:* 12:05, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45
It's Complicated: Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 11:40, 1:50, 2:20, 4:35, 5:05, 7:15, 7:50, 10:15, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 11:40am, 1:50, 2:25, 4:35, 5:05, 7:15, 7:50, 10:15, 10:30pm
Leap Year: Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 1:30, 3:50, 6:50, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 11:35am, 1:55, 4:25, 6:50, 9:30pm
**The Princess and the Frog:* 11:50am, 2:40, 5:15, 7:35, 10:00pm
***Sherlock Holmes* (open captioned and descriptive audio):** Tue, 4:10, 10:10; Wed, 12:50, 7:10; Thu (1/14), 4:10, 10:10
**Sherlock Holmes:* Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 12:50, 2:00, 4:10, 5:00, 7:10, 8:00, 10:10pm; Mon, 11:45am, 12:50, 2:35, 4:10, 5:25, 7:10, 8:20, 10:10pm; Tue, 11:45am, 12:50, 2:35, 5:25, 7:10, 8:20pm; Wed, 11:45am, 2:35, 4:10, 5:25, 8:20, 10:10pm; Thu (1/14), 11:45am, 12:50, 2:35, 5:25, 7:10, 8:20pm
The Twilight Saga: New Moon: 12:45, 4:05, 7:40, 10:35
Youth in Revolt: 11:55am, 2:20, 4:20, 7:45, 10:05pm

IMAX THEATRE *Texas State History Museum, 1800 N. Congress, 936-IMAX.*
The Alps: Fri-Sat, 11:00am; Mon-Thu (1/14), 11:00am
Avatar: 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15
Texas: The Big Picture: Fri-Sat, 10:00am; Mon-Thu (1/14), 10:00am

LAKELINE STARPORT *Lakeline Mall at Highway 183 and RR 620, 335-4793.* Discounts daily before 6pm and all day Wednesday.
**Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel:* 11:45am, 2:10, 4:30, 7:05, 9:25pm
**Avatar:* 11:50am, 3:35, 7:00, 10:20pm
The Blind Side: 12:00, 4:25, 7:15, 10:15
Daybreakers: 12:25, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05
It's Complicated: 12:05, 4:20, 7:20, 10:25
Leap Year: 12:15, 2:45, 5:05, 7:30, 9:50
The Princess and the Frog: 11:55am, 2:15, 4:40, 7:10, 9:30pm
**Sherlock Holmes:* 12:35, 4:10, 7:35, 10:30
Youth in Revolt: 12:30, 2:40, 5:00, 7:45, 10:00

METROPOLITAN *South I-35 at Stassney, 447-0101.* Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a $3.50 premium. Call theatre for showtimes Jan. 14.
Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel: Fri-Wed, 11:45am, 12:15, 12:45, 1:15, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:50, 7:30, 8:00, 9:20, 10:00, 10:30pm
The Blind Side: Fri-Wed, 12:05, 4:20, 7:35, 10:35
Opera: *Der Rosenkavalier:* Sat, 12:00pm
Did You Hear About the Morgans?: Fri-Mon, 7:10, 10:15; Tue, 10:15pm; Wed, 7:10, 10:15
It's Complicated: Fri-Wed, 12:20, 4:50, 7:50, 10:40
Nine: Fri, 12:40, 4:20, 7:40, 10:35; Sat, 7:40, 10:35; Sun-Wed, 12:40, 4:20, 7:40, 10:35
Precious: Based on the Novel 'Push' by Sapphire: Fri-Wed, 11:55am, 2:35, 5:15, 8:05, 10:45pm
The Princess and the Frog: Fri-Wed, 11:40am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:05, 9:30pm
The Twilight Saga: New Moon: Fri-Wed, 12:30, 4:10, 7:15, 10:20
The Young Victoria: Fri-Wed, 11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:25, 10:10pm

MILLENNIUM THEATRE *1156 Hargrave, 472-6932.* Located within the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex. Adults, $6; children, $4.
Disney's A Christmas Carol: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 12:30, 3:00, 5:00, 7:00, 9:00pm; Wed-Thu (1/14), 10:30am, 12:30, 3:00, 5:00pm

PARAMOUNT THEATRE *713 Congress, 472-5470.*
Ed Wood: Wed, 9:00pm; Thu (1/14), 7:00pm
Edward Scissorhands: Wed, 7:00pm; Thu (1/14), 9:25pm
History of the World: Part I: Sat, 9:05pm; Sun, 2:30pm
Robin Hood: Men in Tights: Fri, 9:05pm; Sat, 7:00pm
Young Frankenstein: Fri, 7:00pm; Sun, 4:20pm

TINSELTOWN NORTH *North I-35 and FM 1825, Pflugerville, 512/989-8540.* Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a $2.50 premium.
Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel: 12:00, 12:40, 1:20, 2:25, 3:05, 3:45, 4:50, 5:30, 6:15, 7:15, 7:55, 9:40, 10:25
Avatar: 11:00am, 12:25, 2:40, 4:05, 7:45pm
Avatar* (3-D): 11:40am, 1:55, 3:20, 5:35, 7:00, 9:15, 10:40pm
The Blind Side: 1:20, 4:25, 7:25, 10:35
**Daybreakers:* 11:15am, 1:50, 4:25, 7:05, 9:50pm
Opera: *Der Rosenkavalier:* Sat, 12:00pm
Did You Hear About the Morgans?: 6:45, 9:25
**The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus:* 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45
Invictus: 11:30am, 2:30pm
It's Complicated: 11:15am, 12:40, 2:05, 3:30, 4:55, 6:20, 7:40, 9:15, 10:30pm
**Leap Year:* 11:30am, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15, 9:55pm
The Princess and the Frog: 11:25am, 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:45pm
Sherlock Holmes: 12:50, 1:40, 3:55, 4:45, 6:35, 7:00, 8:00, 9:35, 10:05
**3 Idiots:* 11:10am, 2:50, 6:30, 10:10pm
**The Twilight Saga: New Moon:* 9:00pm
Up in the Air: Fri, 11:35am, 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30pm; Sat, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30; Sun-Thu (1/14), 11:35am, 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30pm
**Youth in Revolt:* 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55

TINSELTOWN SOUTH *South I-35 at Stassney, 326-3800.* $10 "special event" ticket prices apply to Indian films.
Avatar: Fri, 4:25, 6:15, 8:20, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 12:40, 2:00, 4:25, 6:15, 8:20, 9:50; Mon-Thu (1/14), 4:25, 6:15, 8:20, 9:50
Avatar* (3-D): Fri, 3:15, 7:05, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 3:15, 7:05, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 3:15, 7:05, 10:30
The Boondock Saints II: All Saints Day: Fri, 4:50, 7:40, 10:40; Sat-Sun, 1:35, 4:50, 7:40, 10:40; Mon-Thu (1/14), 4:50, 7:40, 10:40
Brothers: Fri, 6:20pm; Sat-Sun, 12:05, 6:20; Mon-Thu (1/14), 6:20pm
**Daybreakers:* Fri, 3:30, 5:00, 6:05, 7:30, 8:30, 10:00, 10:50; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 1:00, 2:30, 3:30, 5:00, 6:05, 7:30, 8:30, 10:00, 10:50; Mon-Thu (1/14), 3:30, 5:00, 6:05, 7:30, 8:30, 10:00, 10:50
**The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus:* Fri, 4:05, 7:00, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 4:05, 7:00, 9:55; Mon-Thu (1/14), 4:05, 7:00, 9:55
**Leap Year:* Fri, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 2:20, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (1/14), 4:40, 7:20, 9:50
Ninja Assassin: Fri, 2:50, 8:45; Sat-Sun, 12:10, 2:50, 8:45; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:50, 8:45
The Road: Fri, 4:20, 7:15, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 1:45, 4:20, 7:15, 10:10; Mon-Thu (1/14), 4:20, 7:15, 10:10
Sherlock Holmes: Fri, 3:00, 3:45, 4:30, 5:15, 6:10, 6:45, 7:35, 9:00, 9:45, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 12:45, 1:30, 3:00, 3:45, 4:30, 5:15, 6:10, 6:45, 7:35, 9:00, 9:45, 10:30; Mon-Thu (1/14), 3:00, 3:45, 4:30, 5:15, 6:10, 6:45, 7:35, 9:00, 9:45, 10:30
3 Idiots: Fri, 6:00, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 2:25, 6:00, 9:30; Mon-Thu (1/14), 4:30, 8:30
2012: 2:45, 9:10
**Up in the Air:* Fri, 2:55, 5:35, 8:15, 10:45; Sat-Sun, 12:15, 2:55, 5:35, 8:15, 10:45; Mon-Thu (1/14), 2:55, 5:35, 8:15, 10:45
**Youth in Revolt:* Fri, 3:20, 5:50, 8:10, 10:35; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 3:20, 5:50, 8:10, 10:35; Mon-Thu (1/14), 3:20, 5:50, 8:10, 10:35

WESTGATE 11 *South Lamar and Ben White, 899-2717.* Discounts daily before 6pm. Cost for 3-D shows is regular ticket price plus a $3.50 premium.
**Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel:* 12:15, 2:35, 5:00, 7:15, 9:35
Avatar: 1:10, 6:00, 9:30
Avatar* (3-D): 11:30am, 3:00, 6:35, 10:05pm
The Blind Side: 12:50, 7:10
Daybreakers: 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20
Invictus: 3:45, 10:00
It's Complicated: 12:45, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10
Leap Year: 11:50am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:30, 9:55pm
Nine: 12:50, 4:10, 6:50, 9:40
The Princess and the Frog: 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:05, 9:25
**Sherlock Holmes:* 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
Up in the Air: 11:40am, 2:10, 4:45, 7:40, 10:15pm

FOR UPDATED SHOWTIMES, SEE austinchronicle.com/film.

> *An asterisk (*) before a title means that no passes or special admission discounts will be accepted.*

> *Changes may sometimes occur; viewers are encouraged to call theatres to confirm showtimes.*

LEAP YEAR
D: Anand Tucker; with Amy Adams, Matthew Goode, Adam Scott, John Lithgow, Noel O'Donovan, Kaitlin Olson. (PG, 97 min.)

There may be more masochistic ways to spend this coming box-office weekend than by taking in a matinee of Brit director Tucker's soulless, Lifetime-lite flibbertigibbet of a movie, but for once I'm at a loss to think of any. *Leap Year* is a desperately unfunny depiction of a Boston society-girl wannabe who, blanching and distressed in the face of yet another nonproposal from her cardiologist beau (Scott), secretly follows the ungroom in question to Ye Auld Eire with plans to ensnare *him* on the titular date (according some arcane leprechaunic lore, it's doable in Dublin). This film is unquestionably the most unromantic and downright despairing romcom since *Made of Honor* or, possibly, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*. Anna (Adams) is coiffed and costumed to resemble an uptown cross between *The Quiet Man*-era Maureen O'Hara and vintage Nicole Kidman, but the character is ill-flavored with a sort of ugly-American perkiness that sets your nerves on edge and makes you wonder in all seriousness if Tucker isn't employing some sort of wickedly dry, highly unsubtle cultural critique on both the U.S. and Ireland. This is not as farfetched an idea as it sounds: Tucker helmed the (presumably final) installment of the perverse and inspired Yorkshire Ripper-noir trilogy *Red Riding: 1983* for BBC 4 as well as the considerably more subversive romantic comedy *Shopgirl* back in 2005. *Leap Year*, however, neither perverts nor subverts much of anything. It is instead a perfect template for romcom mediocrity, from its cookie-cutter script (courtesy of *Made of Honor*'s Harry Elfont and Deborah Kaplan) to the stupendously absent electricity between Adams and her coy Irish rover boy (Goode). It's rarely a good sign when Flogging Molly shows up on the soundtrack before even the first act is out, nor does it inspire confidence in a film when the great Lithgow appears early on, his character besozzled in good old Boston-Irish cliché, and receives only four lines of dialogue before vanishing from the rest of the film. I realize Christmas has ghosted past already, but baby, it's cold outside and colder still in the calculating, cruddy faux Ireland onscreen, and so to *Leap Year* I can only offer canned Scroogeisms: Bah O'humbug. – *Marc Savlov*

Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

YOUTH IN REVOLT
D: Miguel Arteta; with Michael Cera, Portia Doubleday, Jean Smart, Zach Galifianakis, Mary Kay Place, Justin Long, Fred Willard, Ray Liotta, Steve Buscemi, Ari Graynor, Adhir Kalyan. (R, 90 min.)

Youth in Revolt was first set to open this fall, but it was a smart move to wait: It's a sweetly dippy underachiever better-suited to small-stakes January. Taken from C.D. Payne's early Nineties epistolary novel, *Youth in Revolt* chronicles the tortured life of Nick Twisp (Cera), a teen living mostly friendlessly in Oakland, Calif. Mom (Smart) runs through a string of loutish boyfriends;

Dad (Buscemi, in an ill-defined role) is schtupping a blonde closer to Nick's age than his own (in fact, she's played by Graynor, who was the funny-drunk compatriot of Cera in *Nick and Norah's Infinite Playlist*). Nick's life takes a turn for the better, however, when a family outing to a trailer park puts him in the path of Sheeni Saunders (Doubleday). She's sharp, educated, and cool to touch, at home in bikinis and Fifties shirtdresses. She drives Nick wild, and she even lets him kiss her some, but only close-mouthed stuff. Which is for the best, I suppose: One can't quite imagine Cera, ever baby-faced and halting, jamming his tongue down a girl's throat. Cera is fine here, and his range broadens some when Nick invents an alter ego named François – chain-smoking, troublemaking – because, as Nick puts it, "my one and only love wants me to be bad." Gustin Nash's script consistently delivers on situational laughs, even if he never shades in the characters beyond mere pencil sketch. And given the edgy bent of director Arteta's stand-out earlier work (*The Good Girl*, *Chuck & Buck*), there's a surprising lack of bite to the film. What *Youth in Revolt* most seems to be channeling is the spirit of Savage Steve Holland and his quintessentially Eighties artifacts *Better Off Dead* and *One Crazy Summer*: virginal smart alecks, fun with mixed media, and a healthy high/low humor spread. Arteta's take offers nothing particularly riotous – and were we not promised revolt? – but it's an enjoyable enough exercise in teen angst triumphing. – *Kimberley Jones*

★★★ Alamo Ritz, Barton Creek Square, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

first runs

***Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.**

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL

D: Betty Thomas; with Zachary Levi, David Cross, Jason Lee, Wendie Malick; with the voices of Justin Long, Matthew Gray Gubler, Jesse McCartney, Anna Faris, Christina Applegate, Amy Poehler. (PG, 88 min.)

It's a rare but not unheard-of event for a sequel to top its predecessor. This is not one of those sequels, however, and director Thomas, working from a script by returning screenwriter Jon Vitti and *Kung Fu Panda* scribe Jonathan Aibel, does little to improve on 2007's original "film/rebranding event." While *The Squeakquel* might be appreciated by filmgoers ages 10 or younger, the rest of us should be investing heavily in d-CON and working feverishly through the night to build a better rodent trap. This time out, the all-singing, all-dancing, all-CGI chipmunks – rebel with paws Alvin (Long), wise guy Simon (Gubler), and tubby emo vermin Theodore (McCartney) – wind up in a contrived "squeak-off" with a new trio of singing *female* chipmunks, cruelly dubbed the "Chipettes" by down-on-his-luck record exec Ian Hawk (Cross, returning from the original in search of a paycheck and not much else). Muskrat love, of a sort, is in the air. *(12/25/2009)* – *Marc Savlov*

★ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

ANTICHRIST

D: Lars von Trier; with Willem Dafoe, Charlotte Gainsbourg. (NR, 104 min.)

Possibly the best argument against couples therapy ever, *Antichrist* is a tour-de-force trip inside the mind of a dangerously depressed man. That man is von Trier, and his film speaks the language of madness with astonishing fluency. Dreamlike and possessed of a terrible, doom-laden beauty, *Antichrist* is a flawed masterpiece and an example of highly personal auteurism that will either make you mad or drive you mad; either way, you're complicit in von Trier's vigorously compelling nightmare of love, death, and despair. Dafoe and Gainsbourg are fearless in their absolute commitment to their respective roles as He and She, a couple in the throes of immense, obliterating grief. They seek therapeutic escape at their cabin in the woods. He is a therapist and arrogantly assumes he can assuage She's pain in this act of withdrawal. But She is beyond such psychological salves, and, as von Trier steers his couple into the dark forest primeval, *Antichrist* becomes a genuine horror movie. *(11/20/2009)* – *Marc Savlov*

★★★★ Dobie

AVATAR

D: James Cameron; with Sam Worthington, Zoe Saldana, Sigourney Weaver, Stephen Lang, Michelle Rodriguez, Giovanni Ribisi, Joel David Moore, CCH Pounder, Wes Studi, Laz Alonso. (PG-13, 162 min.)

At 162 minutes and a cost of somewhere between $250 million and $300 million, Cameron's ne plus ultra of futuristic mechanized mayhem and seamless CGI trickery is both a cinematically spectacular slab of virtually non-stop action and an unmistakable diatribe against corporatized American imperialism. There are the usual muscled-up boys (and equally powerful girls) with big-bang toys, crying havoc and letting slip the dogs of war, to be sure, but at its heart this mammoth film is … a chick flick. Despite a script that at times leaves its most interesting characters delivering some of the most banal lines in a Cameron film thus far, somehow it all holds together. As a purely visual experience, it's like nothing you've ever seen before: a lush, sexy, primal world created entirely by Cameron's legions of CGI masters. *Avatar* is thrilling, lovely, sad, and explosive in all the right ways. *(12/18/2009)* – *Marc Savlov*

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, IMAX Theatre, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

BAD LIEUTENANT: PORT OF CALL NEW ORLEANS

D: Werner Herzog; with Nicolas Cage, Eva Mendes, Val Kilmer, Fairuza Balk, Jennifer Coolidge, Vondie Curtis-Hall, Xzibit, Shawn Hatosy, Denzel Whitaker, Tom Bower. (R, 121 min.)

The singular talents of director Herzog and star Cage coalesce here into something mercurial, creating a movie that is mutable, unpredictable, and, above all, original. *Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans*, is not a sequel, prequel, remake, or follow-up to Abel Ferrara's 1992 film. This new "bad lieutenant" is bad in many of the same ways as Ferrara's (rampant cocaine and narcotics use, gambling addiction, and flagrant abuse of the badge), but gone are the Catholic guilt, the New York City streets, and the naked, howling Harvey Keitel. The new film is set in New Orleans in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. It seems to be on the constant verge of going off the rails, which makes the film a gas to watch. However, it's somewhat disconcerting for a movie about debasement and redemption to be so entertaining. Still, Cage delivers his best performance in ages, and Herzog demonstrates, once again, that he is capable of virtually anything. *(12/11/2009)* – *Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village

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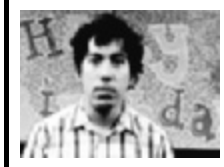
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it's Complicated* (11:45 3:20) 6:30 9:40
AVATAR (11:00 12:00 3:00 4:00) 7:00 8:00 10:45
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YOUTH IN REVOLT (R) Fri. & Sat. 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:30 11:30
Sun. - Thu. 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:30
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Sun. - Thu. 12:05 2:20 4:45 7:10 9:35
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SHERLOCK HOLMES (PG–13) Fri. - Thu. 1:30 4:20 7:10 9:50 10:00
ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG)
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IT'S COMPLICATED (R) Fri. & Sat. 11:30 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30 11:50
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Ed Wood

***Ed Wood* (1994)** *D: Tim Burton; with Johnny Depp, Martin Landau, Sarah Jessica Parker, Patricia Arquette, Jeffrey Jones, Bill Murray, Lisa Marie, George "the Animal" Steele, Juliet Landau. (R, 124 min.)* **Winter Film Series: Mel Brooks and Tim Burton Double Features.** This biographical film is charming, melancholy, strange, and quirkily humorous. There's also a certain irony in giving the silver-screen treatment to the most infamous of bargain-basement directors and his motley crew of hangers-on. (*) @Paramount, Wednesday, 9pm; Thursday, 7pm.

THE BLIND SIDE
D: John Lee Hancock; with Sandra Bullock, Quinton Aaron, Tim McGraw, Kathy Bates, Jae Head, Lily Collins, Ray McKinnon, Kim Dickens. (PG-13, 126 min.)

Writer/director Hancock (*The Rookie*) overcomes most of the built-in problems inherent to inspirational sports dramas. Also in the film's plus column are two standout performances: Aaron, as the sweet-mannered but largely uncommunicative football player Michael (Aaron does some very subtle body work, using the way he carries his heft as an emotional signpost), and Bullock, as the prickly, straight-talking Memphis socialite who welcomes Michael into her home and eventually makes him a part of the family. This is a dream role for Bullock – finally, a job that requires her to be adult, tart, and smart, all at once – and she makes good use of it. It's not an altogether convincing portrait, but it is an entertaining, even moving one, and the forcefulness of her presence goes a long way in pulling the film back from the brink of cuddliness. *(11/20/2009)* *– Kimberley Jones*
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

THE BOONDOCK SAINTS II: ALL SAINTS DAY
D: Troy Duffy; with Sean Patrick Flanery, Norman Reedus, Billy Connolly, Clifton Collins Jr., Julie Benz, Judd Nelson, David Della Rocco, Bob Marley, Brian Mahoney, David Ferry. (R, 118 min.)

Director Duffy's wickedly bloodthirsty and strangely humorous *The Boondock Saints* was a cult hit waiting to happen that somehow didn't. As a post-post-Tarantino hipster-shoot-'em-up, it seemed oddly dated back when it received a microrelease from Miramax before heading straight to video and developing a substantial following, in part due to the canny documentary *Overnight*, which chronicles the *Boondock* director's meteoric nonrise to and ego-fueled fall from indie cinema heaven. The original is all muzzle flash and zero smarts, but its loopy storyline, which has hard-drinking, harder-fighting Boston-Irish sibling vigilantes Connor and Murphy MacManus (Flanery and Reedus) laying waste to both the Italian and Russian mobs in modern-day Beantown, is delirious, brutish, testosterone-fueled un-fun. *All Saints Day*, from its dullish title on down to its final bullet, is the sort of outrageously bad filmmaking that defines the phrase "unnecessary sequel." Even fans of these blood-soaked bouncing Murphys might think twice before giving the downward-spiraling director a third chance. *(12/04/2009)* *– Marc Savlov*
½ Tinseltown South

BROTHERS
D: Jim Sheridan; with Jake Gyllenhaal, Natalie Portman, Tobey Maguire, Sam Shepard, Mare Winningham, Bailee Madison, Taylor Geare, Clifton Collins Jr.. (R, 110 min.)

Inferior in practically every way to Danish director Susanne Bier's original *Brødre* – but now with more U2! – *Brothers* draws from two rampaging traditions, Greek tragedy and romantic melodrama, and renders both weirdly inert. Maguire plays the elder Cahill brother, Sam, a captain in the Marines; an attentive husband to his high school sweetheart, Grace (Portman); and a devoted father to two little girls. *Brother*s, in its most effective and engrossing stretches, examines the malleability of the roles the various Cahills are assigned, either by themselves or by others. All the actors do well enough, but they don't mesh at all – it's as if everyone's acting in his or her own movie – and there's simply no lived-in quality to the film. Sheridan and scripter David Benioff stick closely to the bullet points of the original but can't seem to translate the rich complexity of the characters and the choices they make. *(12/11/2009)* *– Kimberley Jones*
★★½ Tinseltown South

DID YOU HEAR ABOUT THE MORGANS?
D: Marc Lawrence; with Hugh Grant, Sarah Jessica Parker, Sam Elliott, Mary Steenburgen, Michael Kelly, Elisabeth Moss, Jesse Liebman, Wilford Brimley. (PG-13, 103 min.)

From its difficult-to-remember title on down, *Did You Hear About the Morgans?* is a forgettable and lackluster fish-out-of-water rom-com. The film exploits tired stereotypes about city and country folks while being propped up by the kind of irrational narrative logic that can only exist in the movies. Paul and Meryl Morgan (Grant and Parker) are a New York City couple who, though separated, together witness a homicide. The authorities decide to place the Morgans in the Witness Protection Program and ship them to Wyoming. Of course, a week cooped up together out West reminds the couple of how much they still love each other. The movie's wan script by writer-director Lawrence almost makes the viewer wish that actors Grant and Parker, who each here underplay their signature stammering and bubbliness, were allowed free rein to infuse their characters with greater liveliness. Used with even less regard for character definition are the supporting actors. *(12/18/2009)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*
★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL
D: Robert Zemeckis; with Jim Carrey, Gary Oldman, Colin Firth, Cary Elwes, Robin Wright Penn, Bob Hoskins, Daryl Sabara. (PG, 96 min.)

The initial "gee, whillikers" reaction to Zemeckis' motion-capture rendition of the Dickens classic eventually turns to "bah, humbug" as the film's technological novelty gives way to narrative mundanity. So absent is any emotional content that it's as



Trouble the Water

***Trouble the Water* (2008)** *D: Tia Lessin, Carl Deal. (NR, 96 min.)* **Austin Museum of Art.** This film about the human toll of Hurricane Katrina is one of the best and most inspirational things to come out of the disaster. Cinematographer PJ Raval will be in attendance. (*) @Alamo Ritz, Wednesday, 7pm.


The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus

though Dickens' ultimate cautionary tale is a mere afterthought onto which Zemeckis can drape his live-action/computer-animated visual hybrid that he has now used on his third sequential movie (following *Beowulf* and *The Polar Express*). Scrooge (Carrey) is still the same miserly old coot we know him to be, but instead of the transformative effect of Scrooge's glimpses into his past, present, and future, this film emphasizes the phantasmic elements of the ghosts and the pliable mechanics they use to show Scrooge such privileged viewpoints of his life. Carrey, never a slouch when it comes to his output, plays all three ghosts in addition to Scrooge. The actor sheds his usual silliness and adopts more of the tone and breeding of a British thespian. *(11/06/2009)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*
★★ Millennium

AN EDUCATION
D: Lone Scherfig; with Carey Mulligan, Peter Sarsgaard, Alfred Molina, Cara Seymour, Dominic Cooper, Rosamund Pike, Olivia Williams, Emma Thompson. (PG-13, 95 min.)

Everything about Scherfig's coming-of-age story about a girl in the London suburb of Twickenham in 1961 is spot-on. The film tells a wonderfully nuanced story about a teenager's longing to break free of her provincial surroundings and enter the world at large. It's a story about her education in the university of life, an impartial proving ground that seduces many into its fold but whose revolving door is just as likely to hit you on the ass on the way out. Scherfig directs the drama, which is based on a memoir by Lynn Barber and adapted for the screen by Nick Hornby, with a steady but subtle hand. Crowning *An Education* is the central performance of Mulligan as 16-year-old Jenny: In this breakthrough role, the actress stuns us with a range that goes from dimpled schoolgirl to oh-so-sophisticated teen to Audrey Hepburn look-alike to disillusioned-but-wiser adult. *(11/13/2009)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*
★★★★ Arbor

FANTASTIC MR. FOX
D: Wes Anderson; with the voices of George Clooney, Meryl Streep, Jason Schwartzman, Bill Murray, Wallace Wolodarsky, Eric Chase Anderson, Michael Gambon, Willem Dafoe. (PG, 87 min.)

Certainly the source material appears, at first glance, far afield of Anderson's usual lens-finder. But instead of bending to the will of the source, Roald Dahl's 1970 children's book about a turf war between farmers and foxes, Anderson has instead made it conform rather giddily to his own sensibilities. This is an animated film that happily has room for both an existentialist dread of death and a grinning joie de vivre. Clooney voices the titular Mr. Fox, a former thief made to go straight by his wife (Streep) when they give birth to a son, Ash (Schwartzman). But Mr. Fox is too visionary and, well, prankish to stay settled down, so he masterminds one last caper. *Fantastic Mr. Fox* is rendered in traditional stop-motion animation – a style nearly bygone in these digital days – and both the antiquity and the laboriousness of that process are perfectly suited to Anderson. There's a terrific amount of talent corralled here. *(11/27/2009)* *– Kimberley Jones*
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village

INVICTUS
D: Clint Eastwood; with Morgan Freeman, Matt Damon, Tony Kgoroge, Julian Lewis Jones, Adjoa Andoh. (PG, 134 min.)

Freeman teams up once again with director Eastwood to play South African president and international hero Nelson Mandela. The story is based on John Carlin's book *Playing the Enemy: Nelson Mandela and the Game That Made a Nation*. The game in question is rugby, and the events surround Mandela's enthusiastic support of the South African team's attempt to win the 1995 Rugby World Cup. Although a fan of the sport, Mandela's actions were born of an ulterior motive: that of building a post-apartheid nation. With racial tensions high after his release from prison and ascension to the presidency, Mandela saw a means of bridging the fears between his newly powerful black constituency and the fearful, white old guard. Eastwood's direction, though typically assured and understated, is nevertheless flabby at times. Yet *Invictus* remains inspiring and educational, especially during this present time in America in which we are supposedly muddling our way into a post-racial society. *(12/11/2009)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*
★★★ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Westgate

IT'S COMPLICATED
D: Nancy Meyers; with Meryl Streep, Alec Baldwin, Steve Martin, John Krasinski, Lake Bell, Caitlin Fitzgerald, Zoe Kazan, Hunter Parrish. (R, 118 min.)

The thing about *It's Complicated* is that it's not … complicated. Writer-director Meyers has come to specialize in making wish-fulfillment fantasies for middle-aged women in which smart, professional, single, Caucasian women of a certain age have wonderful careers, picture-perfect homes, and love affairs aplenty. In *It's Complicated*, Streep plays Jane Adler, a Santa Barbara, Calif., restaurateur who is 10 years divorced from Jake (Baldwin) when they begin having an affair. Also present in Jane's life is Adam (Martin), the architect who is overseeing the planned expansion of her already perfect home. Many are the amusing and knowing moments in this comedy, yet the fabric of Meyers' fantasy is too gossamer to sustain the weight of their truths. Streep, who is usually so impressive, seems little more than ordinary in this work, and Martin's unique talents are sadly wasted. Meyers has a good feel for contemporary comedy; it's reality, however, that slips through her grasp. *(12/25/2009)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*
★★½ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate


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Collapse

Collapse (2009) *D: Chris Smith. (NR, 82 min.)* Smith, the director of *American Movie* and *The Yes Men*, brings us another portrait of an outsider, albeit this time it's one that will provoke paranoia rather than laughs. His subject is Michael Ruppert, a former cop turned independent reporter, who predicted American's economic collapse long before it occurred. The documentary is a claustrophobic exposé of Ruppert's ideas and a film that appeared on numerous Top 10 lists. @Alamo Ritz, Sunday-Monday, 7pm.

ME AND ORSON WELLES

D: Richard Linklater; with Zac Efron, Claire Danes, Christian McKay, Ben Chaplin, Zoe Kazan, Eddie Marsan, Kelly Reilly, James Tupper, Leo Bill. (PG-13, 113 min.)

The "me" in this boy-meets-boy period comedy is Richard Samuels (Efron), a dreamy-eyed high schooler who quite literally stumbles into the part of his life, as a walk-on in the New York theatrical production of *Julius Caesar*, Orson Welles' barn-burning 1937 debut production for his Mercury Theatre troupe. Richard, light on his feet, talks his way into Welles' production; Welles (McKay), only 22 and admiring of anyone with pluck (so long as said pluck doesn't steal from his own spotlight), takes a liking to the kid. McKay's performance seems effortless, so commanding is it, careening from cocksure boy genius to bellowing, beleaguered director to ice-in-his-veins slayer of baby dragons such as disposable actors and mewling rival suitors. Efron brings a lively physicality to the film, but his acting, nevertheless, lacks a certain sophistication. Linklater has crafted an always genial and at times even joyful period charmer about that moment on the cusp: before a boy becomes a man and another man becomes a mythological figure. *(12/11/2009)* *– Kimberley Jones*

★★★½ Dobie

NINE

D: Rob Marshall; with Daniel Day-Lewis, Marion Cotillard, Penélope Cruz, Nicole Kidman, Judi Dench, Kate Hudson, Sophia Loren, Fergie, Ricky Tognazzi. (PG-13, 118 min.)

For a film director whom we're told is creatively blocked, Guido Contini (Day-Lewis) has a rich panorama of images cascading about his brain. Most of his images are of the women in his life dancing about elaborate stages in corsets. Marshall has gathered an impressive stable of on- and off-screen talent but never gets these various pieces to jell. It's a bold move to film a musical with cast members who, apart from Fergie and Cotillard, are not known to possess any singing or dancing skills. Each musical number gives the appearance of having been doctored to within an inch of its life with crazy pans, cuts, differing film stocks, jewel-bedecked costumes, and eye-catching movements constantly grabbing our focus. Day-Lewis also performs and dances two numbers obligingly, but the chinks in this great actor's performance arsenal show. Also, much of the film's music is instantly forgettable. *(12/25/2009)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★ Arbor, Barton Creek Square, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Metropolitan, Westgate

NINJA ASSASSIN

D: James McTeigue; with Rain, Naomie Harris, Ben Miles, Rick Yune. (R, 99 min.)

Pitched somewhere between a preadolescent boy's fantasy world of nunchaku and *shuriken* (or fighting sticks and throwing stars) and a wildly off-kilter exercise in homoerotic beefcakery, this astonishingly crappy slo-mo gorefest proves once and for all that McTeigue wasn't the man responsible for the excellent *V for Vendetta* and that the writer/producer Wachowski brothers were. I'm not sure there's *anybody* at the helm of *Ninja Assassin*, which just flat-out sucks rice dumplings, beginning with its generic title on down to its preposterously dumb view of the ups and downs and, you know, bullet-avoidance techniques of your average contemporary ninja. That would be ginchy Korean pop-lite star Rain who plays Raizo, abducted as a child by the not even vaguely mysterious Ozuno Clan, and thereafter raised to be, like, totally unkillable and way superbuff. The convoluted and really, really lousy storyline has sexy Interpol agent Mika Coretti (Harris) digging up connections between international assassinations and the Ozunus. *(11/27/2009)* *– Marc Savlov*

Tinseltown South

PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL 'PUSH' BY SAPPHIRE

D: Lee Daniels; with Gabourey Sidibe, Mo'Nique, Paula Patton, Mariah Carey, Sherri Shepherd, Lenny Kravitz. (R, 109 min.)

Much like its title protagonist Precious – a sexually, emotionally, and physically abused 16-year-old African-American girl who is functionally illiterate, morbidly obese, and pregnant with her second child fathered by her own father – this film is a rough-hewn entity with unlikely odds for success. Yet both the character and the movie overcome their handicaps to become the kind of success stories that the American mythmaking machinery loves to love. Claireece Precious Jones (Sidibe) and her mother, Mary (Mo'Nique), are women we rarely notice. But instead of looking the other way, this movie and the popular book on which it is based place them front and center. Newcomer Sidibe is a real find and not just a looming presence and narrative device. Daniels has also done a marvelous job of casting famous friends of his and getting heart-stirring, stripped-down performances from them all. Despite achieving such a remarkably raw and naturalistic tone, Daniels ups the ante with extreme melodramatic touches. *(11/20/2009)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*

★★★ Arbor, Metropolitan

THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG

D: Ron Clements, John Musker; with the voices of Anika Noni Rose, Bruno Campos, Keith David, Michael-Leon Wooley, Jennifer Cody, Jim Cummings, Peter Bartlett, John Goodman, Jenifer Lewis, Terrence Howard, Oprah Winfrey. (G, 97 min.)

The Disney 2-D animators, who have been losing face, of late, to their CG and 3-D brethren, here stage a bold, vibrant, and altogether bloodless coup on all things Pixar, and whaddaya know? They win. (For now, anyway.) Set in Twenties-era New Orleans, this umpteenth version of what was originally a Brothers Grimm fairy tale makes the Crescent City a major character in and of itself while dusting off the old story of girl-meets-frog and tricking it up with all manner of raucous, jazzy hoodoo, voodoo, and bayou panache. Directors Clements and Musker are the guys behind *Aladdin* and *The Little Mermaid*, and they employ their keen senses of story, pacing, and killer comic rhythm to support a new twist (several, actually) on an old amphibian. Also, the film features a nearly all African-American cast. It's Disney's best traditionally animated outing in ages. *(12/11/2009)* *– Marc Savlov*

★★★½ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

THE ROAD

D: John Hillcoat; with Viggo Mortensen, Kodi Smit-McPhee, Charlize Theron, Robert Duvall, Guy Pearce, Molly Parker. (R, 119 min.)

Cormac McCarthy's novel, by any standard, is no one's idea of a giddy, fun, summer beach read. It's the story of a father and son (credited as "Man" and "Boy") wandering through a blighted American wasteland beset by some (unnamed) catastrophe. Cannibalism, rape, and worse are the order of the day, but McCarthy's unswerving humanity sees the novel through to a conclusion that is no less wrenching for the rusty sliver of hope it offers. Director Hillcoat proves an inspired choice to helm this film adaptation, and his rendering of McCarthy's words can't be faulted for its visual replication of the author's grim picture of mankind's final days. Mortensen, viewed either as a patriarchal Christ figure or simply as a devoted father, works minor miracles in what is essentially a one-note role. Who knew there were so many facial expressions approximating unrelenting despair? *(11/27/2009)* *– Marc Savlov*

★★★ Dobie, Tinseltown South

SHERLOCK HOLMES

D: Guy Ritchie; with Robert Downey Jr., Jude Law, Rachel McAdams, Mark Strong, Eddie Marsan, Kelly Reilly, James Fox, Hans Matheson. (PG-13, 128 min.)

Ritchie has reinvented the chilly, brainiac character of Sherlock Holmes as a tortured genius, ladies' man (sort of), and occasional backroom brawler. As played by Downey Jr. (an inspired casting choice that works in the film's favor), this incarnation is a post-millennial man of action. With Watson (Law, another spot-on bit of casting) at his side, Holmes uncovers a satanic plot that takes him from the lowliest subterranean hellholes to the highest levels of Parliament. Ritchie manages to mostly restrain his more florid directorial flourishes while creating a CGI London so benighted and soot-heavy you can practically smell it. This is Downey Jr.'s film all the way, and while literary traditionalists and Baker Street Irregulars (of which I am one) may find this Holmes' penchant for face-crunching fisticuffs and back-alley chases a sad sop to the action-jaded audiences of the 21st century, the actor's more masculine interpretation of the character is never anything less than startling, fresh, and altogether entertaining. *(12/25/2009)* *– Marc Savlov*

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Dobie, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

3 IDIOTS

D: Rajkumar Hirani; with Aamir Khan, Kareena Kapoor, Madhavan, Boman Irani, Sharman Joshi. (NR, 172 min., subtitled)

Not reviewed at press time. Two friends embark on a quest for their lost buddy in this new Bollywood comedy. *(12/18/2009)* *– Marjorie Baumgarten*

Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON

D: Chris Weitz; with Kristen Stewart, Robert Pattinson, Taylor Lautner, Ashley Greene, Michael Sheen. (PG-13, 130 min.)

Catherine Hardwicke started the saga with last year's *Twilight*, a deliciously trashy mash of pulp and pop art that managed to take seriously its central lovers – doomy vampire Edward (Pattinson) and his teenage human paramour, Bella (Stewart) – while maintaining a sense of humor about itself. But Summit Entertainment chucked Hardwicke for the second installment, and her successor, Weitz, brings zero sense of play or sexual energy to the piece. It's as if everything's been buffed to achieve maximum banality. At the film's beginning, Edward dumps Bella – like, *the day after her birthday*, *OMG* – and is mostly absent in *New Moon*, which turns out to be a boon. Bella, incapacitated with grief, turns to her old pal Jacob (Lautner), but then Jacob starts morphing into a werewolf. The digital effects here are top-notch (as were the ones Weitz supervised in his last film, *The Golden Compass*), and *New Moon* excels in two centerpiece action sequences. *(11/27/2009)* *– Kimberley Jones*

★½ Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

2012

D: Roland Emmerich; with John Cusack, Amanda Peet, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Thandie Newton, Danny Glover, Woody Harrelson, Oliver Platt, Zlatko Buric, Beatrice Rosen, Liam James, Morgan Lily. (PG-13, 158 min.)

Life is simple in Emmerich's films. Confronted with unprecedented perils, the characters in his disaster epics manage to reaffirm their broken loves, make amends for slipshod parenting, and, most impressively, outrun fireballs and certain death with their hides and wits intact. Emmerich takes the disaster-movie genre to its logical conclusion in *2012*, obliterating or reconfiguring vast swaths of the planet's surface (solar storms boil the Earth's core; tectonic havoc ensues) and providing a 158-minute thrill ride that zips by like the real thing. Over the duration, there are homages (or lifts) to apocalyptic exercises of decades past (particularly *When Worlds Collide*) and plenty of cheeky references to Emmerich's own résumé. *2012* is PTSD – Popcorn Thrills and Sappy meloDrama – supersized to counter current real-world terrors, and it is, by turns, thrilling, ridiculous (the script, by Emmerich and longtime co-writer Harald Kloser, is riddled with howlingly goofy lines and seriously improbable deus-ex-machina moments), and just plain big, dumb fun. *(11/13/2009)* *– Marc Savlov*

★★ Tinseltown South

UP IN THE AIR

D: Jason Reitman; with George Clooney, Vera Farmiga, Anna Kendrick, Jason Bateman, Amy Morton, Melanie Lynskey, J.K. Simmons, Sam Elliott, Danny McBride. (R, 109 min.)

Either by design or default, Reitman has customed a film perfectly in tune with these economically distressed, tetchy times, which may explain the near-universal hosannas with which *Up in the Air* has been met. Reitman sets the film in motion with an opening-credit sequence that highlights how America's vistas look from up above – apropros, considering that's where "career transition counselor" Ryan Bingham (Clooney) spends most of his time. Bingham, by choice, is a man without country or close ties, but very quickly two women (Farmiga and Kendrick) arrive in his life to shake up the status quo. Reitman's instincts, of both timing and tone, can feel just a hair off in the film's imperfect first and third acts. But the middle is terrific, especially in a lengthy, unassuming scene in which the three leads sit, sip drinks, and have a good chat: It marks one of the great celluloid pleasures of the year, so virtuosically written, performed, and filmed is it. *(12/18/2009)* *– Kimberley Jones*

★★★½ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

WHERE THE WILD THINGS ARE

D: Spike Jonze; with Max Records, Catherine Keener, Mark Ruffalo, Pepita Emmerichs, Steve Mouzakis; with the voices of James Gandolfini, Lauren Ambrose, Paul Dano, Catherine O'Hara, Chris Cooper, Forest Whitaker. (PG, 94 min.)

This is a freewheeling but tonally and aesthetically true adaptation of Maurice Sendak's 1963 children's book. Jonze, in collaboration with co-screenwriter Dave Eggers, seems to have tapped every primal feeling along the spectrum – joy, grief, rage, a relish for mayhem – and put it onscreen for our viewing pleasure. And a pleasure it is – the rare children's film that isn't coded for adults or made corny and

Cairo Station and "Cairo as Seen by Chahine"

***Cairo Station* and "Cairo as Seen by Chahine"** *D: Youssef Chahine; with* Youssef *Chahine, Hind Rostom, Farid Shawqi. (NR, 100 min.)* **Austin Film Society: Children of Abraham/Ibrahim 4 – Films of the Middle East and Beyond.** Banned in its home country of Egypt for 20 years, this noirish drama is set in a train station, which becomes a microcosm for the social constrasts in Egyptian society. *Cairo Station* (1958, 72 min.) stars the director as a disabled newspaper vendor. "Cairo as Seen by Chahine" (1991, 24 min.) is a later short film. For more on the series see. "Neorealism, Now and Then, in Troubled Lands," p.38. @Alamo Drafthouse South, Tuesday 7pm; $6, AFS members free.



flip for kids. Working with Jim Henson's Creature Shop and adapting quite literally Sendak's original etchings, Jonze has put to film what generations of children have only dreamed about: the nearness and *dearness* of Sendak's woolly beasts. One of the many delights of the film is in how *physical* it is (somebody is always pummeling somebody else and then following the beating with a bruising bear hug). There are minor grievances with the film, all technical, but they frankly feel inconsequential when put next to the film's overall effect. *(10/16/2009)* – *Kimberley Jones*
★★★★ Movies 8

THE YOUNG VICTORIA

D: Jean-Marc Vallée; with Emily Blunt, Rupert Friend, Paul Bettany, Miranda Richardson, Jim Broadbent, Mark Strong, Thomas Kretschmann, Jesper Christensen, Harriet Walter. (PG, 100 min.)

How young is young Victoria? At the film's beginning, she's just 17, with all the sullenness you would expect from a shut-in future queen fending off attack from her *maman* and prospective suitors cherry-picked by two kings. Blunt convincingly portrays the Princess Victoria as bullied, slightly silly, but most of all, desperately alone. Scriptwriter Julian Fellowes makes admirable work of shorthanding the complicated lineages and motives and manueverings. Director Vallée leans on candelight for several key scenes, and the effect is not only gorgeous but also intimates the deepening attachment between Victoria and Albert – one that was mutually felt but not spoken about plainly. (Having just earned her independence, Victoria isn't keen on giving it up again so soon.) All told, *The Young Victoria* is a very well-made if not especially memorable picture, moving with all the grace and steadfastness of a waltz Victoria and Albert share, but absent any urgency or anything particularly exclamatory. *(12/25/2009)* – *Kimberley Jones*
★★★½ Arbor, Metropolitan

also *playing*

*Full-length reviews available online at **austinchronicle.com**.

ASTRO BOY
★★½ Movies 8

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS
★★★½ Movies 8

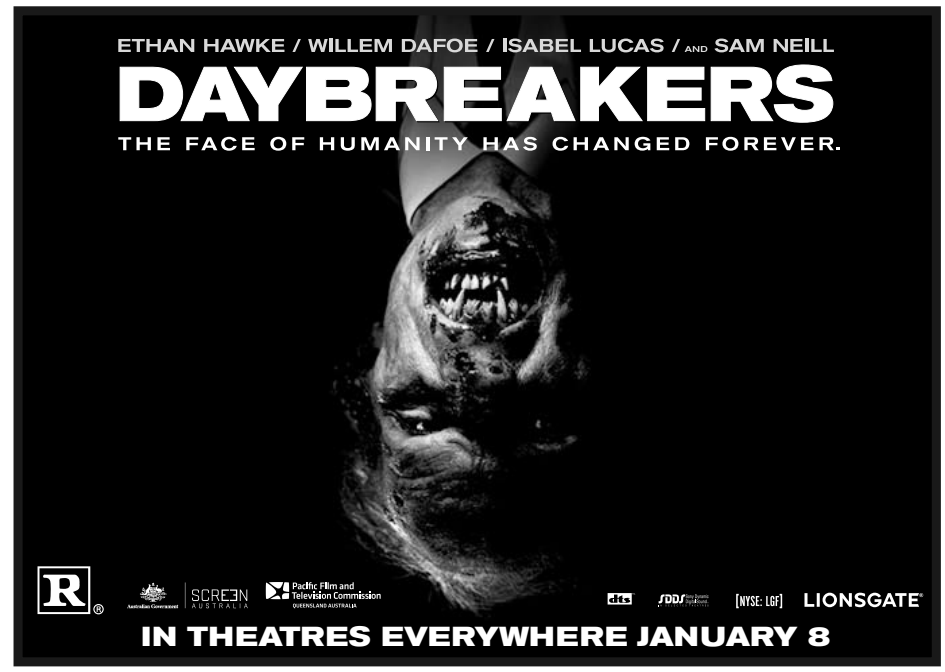
COUPLES RETREAT
Movies 8

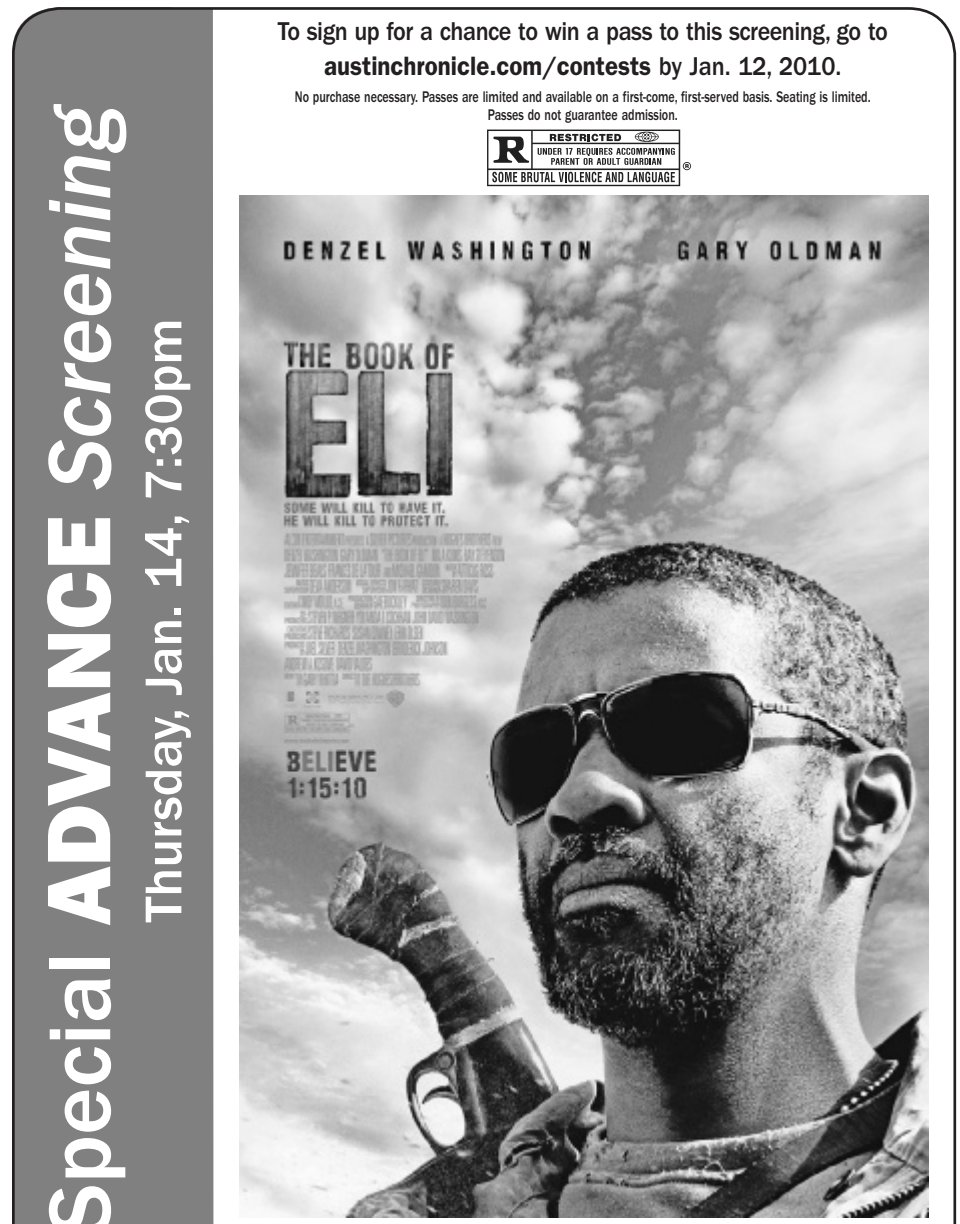
LAW ABIDING CITIZEN
★★ Movies 8

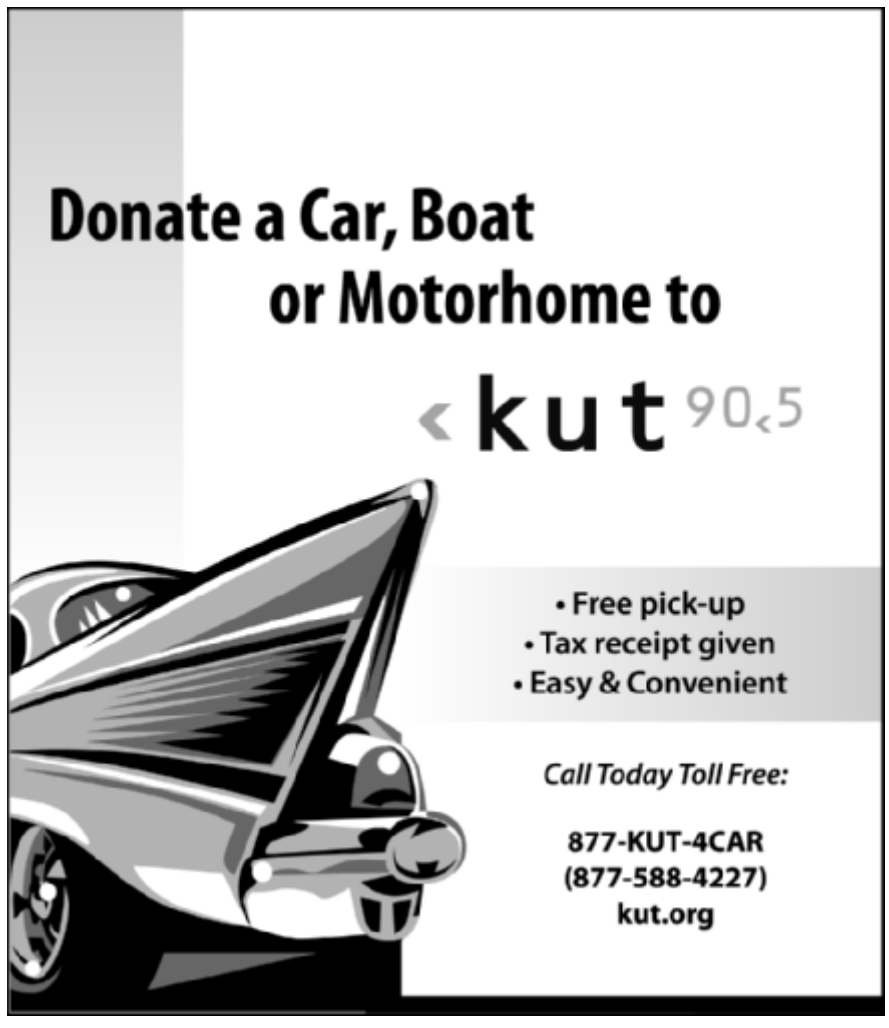
THE MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS ★★★ Movies 8

PARANORMAL ACTIVITY
Movies 8

THE STEPFATHER
★ Movies 8







special *screenings*

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: **austinchronicle.com/film**.



Young Frankenstein

THURSDAY 07

***The Nightmare Never Ends* (1980)** *D: Phillip Marshak, Tom McGowan and Gregg C. Tallas; with Cameron Mitchell, Marc Lawrence, Faith Clift, Richard Moll. (NR, 88 min.)* **Cult Thursday.** A skeptic defies Satan. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm; free.

***Pulp Fiction* Quote-Along (1994)** *D: Quentin Tarantino; with John Travolta, Samuel L. Jackson, Uma Thurman, Bruce Willis. (R, 154 min.)* **Action Pack.** @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

SPACES

***Heroes and Legends of the Texas State Cemetery* (2009)** *D: Glenn Bass; narrated by Cactus Pryor.* The film celebrates the lives of some legendary Texans buried here through one-on-one interviews with other famous figures. @Texas Spirit Theater at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, noon, 5pm.

Traveling Video Show #1 *D: Various.* **Circulatory System.** Originally screened at the Trans-Pecos Festival of Music and Love in Marfa (in conjunction with Monofonus Press and El Cosmico), Circ System aims to bring this stellar program of experimental video to spaces all over Texas. Traveling Video Show #1, organized by Austin- and New York-based performance artist Jill Pangallo, features 17 artists from Austin, Atlanta, and New York. @Okay Mountain Gallery, 8pm.

"Wild Texas Weather" (2009) *D: John Lewis, and Patrick Fries; narrated by Ray Wylie Hubbard. (NR, 22 min.)* See Texans struggle with nature – on the big screen and with immersive sound. The film features a score by David Hamburger and performances by Omar Kent Dykes, Toni Price, and Carolyn Wonderland. @Texas Spirit Theater at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 10:30am, 11:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30pm.

FRIDAY 08

***Robin Hood: Men in Tights* (1993)** *D: Mel Brooks; with Cary Elwes, Richard Lewis, Roger Rees, Amy Yasbeck, Mark Blankfield, Dave Chappelle, Tracey Ullman. (PG-13, 104 min.)* **Winter Film Series: Mel Brooks and Tim Burton Double Features.** Brooks targets his jokes more toward images of masculinity than Sherwood Forest denizens. (*) @Paramount, 9:05pm.

***Young Frankenstein* (1974)** *D: Mel Brooks; with Gene Wilder, Peter Boyle, Marty Feldman, Madeline Kahn, Teri Garr, Cloris Leachman, Kenneth Mars, Gene Hackman. (PG, 105 min.)* **Winter Film Series: Mel Brooks and Tim Burton Double Features.** Brooks was in his film prime when he directed this spoof of the old Universal horror movie. Peter Boyle as the Monster performing "Puttin' on the Ritz" is priceless comedy. @Paramount, 7pm.

SPACES

***Heroes and Legends of the Texas State Cemetery* (2009)** @Texas Spirit Theater at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, noon, 5pm. (See Thursday, 1/7.)

"Wild Texas Weather" (2009) @Texas Spirit Theater at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 10:30am, 11:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30pm. (See Thursday, 1/7.)

SATURDAY 09

***Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel* (sensory friendly) (2009)** *D: Betty Thomas; with the voices of Justin Long, Matthew Gray Gubler, Jesse McCartney, Anna Faris, Christina Applegate, Amy Poehler. (PG, 88 min.)* **Autism Society of America.** At these screenings, the auditorium has its lights brought up and the sound turned down. Additionally, audience members are welcome to get up and move about during the screening and bring along special-diet snacks. @Barton Creek Square, 10am; $5.

Der Rosenkavalier (NR, 295 min.) **Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD.** Renée Fleming stars in Richard Strauss' comic masterpiece of love and intrigue in 18th century Vienna. James Levine conducts. @Southpark Meadows, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, noon.

***History of the World: Part I* (1981)** *D: Mel Brooks; with Brooks, Dom DeLuise, Madeline Kahn, Harvey Korman, Cloris Leachman, Sid Caesar. (R, 92 min.)* **Winter Film Series: Mel Brooks and Tim Burton Double Features.** This is the history of Western civilization as if it were told by the 2,000 Year Old Man. @Paramount, 9:05pm.

***The Monster Squad* (with guests in attendance) (1987)** *D: Fred Dekker; with Andre Gower, Robby Kiger, Stephen Macht. (PG-13, 86 min.)* This kiddie horror film that has young aficionados encountering a whole spectrum of monsters has become a cult favorite. Director Fred Dekker, screenwriter Shane Black, and cast members Andre Gower (Sean), Ryan Lambert (Rudy), and Jon Gries (Wolfman) will be in attendance at the screening. @Alamo Ritz, 7, 9:50pm.

***Robin Hood: Men in Tights* (1993)** @Paramount, 7pm. (See Friday.)

***The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (1975)** *D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.)* Austin fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for more than 30 years straight. For more info, see **www.austinrocky.org**. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

SPACES

***Heroes and Legends of the Texas State Cemetery* (2009)** @Texas Spirit Theater at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, noon, 5pm. (See Thursday, 1/7.)

"Wild Texas Weather" (2009) @Texas Spirit Theater at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 10:30am, 11:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30pm. (See Thursday, 1/7.)

SUNDAY 10

***Collapse* (2009)** See p.64.

***History of the World: Part I* (1981)** @Paramount, 2:30pm. (See Saturday.)

***Young Frankenstein* (1974)** @Paramount, 4:20pm. (See Friday.)

SPACES

***Heroes and Legends of the Texas State Cemetery* (2009)** @Texas Spirit Theater at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 5pm. (See Thursday, 1/7.)

"Wild Texas Weather" (2009) @Texas Spirit Theater at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30pm. (See Thursday, 1/7.)

MONDAY 11

***Collapse* (2009)** See p.64.

***The Magic Christian* (1969)** *D: Joseph McGrath; with Peter Sellers, Ringo Starr. (PG, 92 min.)* **Music Monday.** This eccentric comedy based on Terry Southern's novel is a satire about greed and features cameos from the likes of Richard Attenborough, John Cleese, Laurence Harvey, Christopher Lee, Roman Polanski, Yul Brynner, and Raquel Welch. @Alamo Ritz, 10pm.

SPACES

***Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle* (2004)** *D: Danny Leiner; with John Cho, Kal Penn, Paula Garcés, David Krumholtz, Eddie Kaye Thomas, Neil Patrick Harris, Christopher Meloni. (R, 87 min.)* **Movie Monday: Hairy Month.** Free. (*) @Cafe Mundi, 7:30pm.

***Heroes and Legends of the Texas State Cemetery* (2009)** @Texas Spirit Theater at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, noon, 5pm. (See Thursday, 1/7.)

"Wild Texas Weather" (2009) @Texas Spirit Theater at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 10:30am, 11:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30pm. (See Thursday, 1/7.)

TUESDAY 12

***Cairo Station* and "Cairo as Seen by Chahine"** See p.64.

***Raw Force* (1982)** *D: Edward D. Murphy; with Cameron Mitchell, Geoffrey Binney, Hope Holiday, Jillian Kesner. (R, 86 min.)* **Terror Tuesday.** Exploitation film about martial artists on a mystery island that's overseen by a Hitler look-alike who runs a white-slavery operation. @Alamo Ritz, 10pm.

***Romy and Michele's High School Reunion* (1997)** *D: David Mirkin; with Lisa Kudrow, Mira Sorvino, Janeane Garofalo. (R, 91 min.)* **Girlie Night.** Sweet-natured, unpretentious, and full-throttled comic acting make this reunion movie loopy fun. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

SPACES

Drop Dead Fred *D: Ate De Jong; with Phoebe Cates, Rik Mayall, Marsha Mason, Tim Matheson, Carrie Fisher.* Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 7pm.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Jan. 22 issue is Monday, Jan. 11**. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): **specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com**;
Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): **calendar@austinchronicle.com**.

offscreen

501 Studios: Soundstage + HD Theatre 501 Studios' soundstage in Downtown Austin now doubles as one of Texas' largest public theatres – with a Sony Qualia HD projector, a 28-foot screen, 180 (removable) seats, a vintage popcorn machine, and affordable rates. Need a venue for premieres, wrap parties, or concerts/plays/performances featuring projection? This could be the place. Also still available as a soundstage/green screen. *485-3000.* **www.501studios.com**.

Austin FilmWorks: Feature Lab is now accepting registrations for its new class sequence, in which filmmaker Steve Mims requires students to produce two short films and play a key role in a class-produced feature-length film. See website for details. **www.austinfilmworks.com**.

Austin School of Film Classes An excellent slate of classes is available for your cinematic advancement at the Austin School of Film, with professional instruction in Final Cut Pro, DV and HD cameras, animation and lighting techniques, and more. See website for details. **www.austinfilmschool.org/classes**.

Call for Entries: Faces of Austin The annual multimedia program is conducting its third call for films, to be shown on demand on the three widescreen video displays in the atrium of City Hall. Featured works highlight Austin's unique sense of place and diverse cultural identity and showcase the creative talent of Central Texas filmmakers. See website for details. Submission deadline: *Jan. 13*. **www.cityofaustin.org/redevelopment/austinfaces.htm**.

ChannelAustin Classes Austin's digital media center offers filmmakers professional, hands-on instruction in HD field equipment and studio production, plus affordable access to the latest high-end gear and software by Sony and Apple. Learn more on Mondays from 6 to 7pm. See website for details. *1143 Northwestern*. **www.channelaustin.org**.

Cine las Americas 13: Call for Entries Cine las Americas invites filmmakers, producers, and distributors to participate in the showcase of contemporary films from North, Central, and South America; the Caribbean; and the Iberian Peninsula, as well as works made by or about Latinos and/or indigenous groups of the Americas. See website for details. Deadline: *Jan. 15*. **www.cinelasamericas.org**.

Screen It Like You Mean It Austin Studios has a state-of-the-art screening room, which is available to the public on a rental basis. Community and indie rates are available for the room, which sports an 18-foot-by-7-foot screen, 28 fixed theatre seats, and a surround-sound system and supports Super-35, 35mm, 16mm, VHS, and DVD formats. Handicap accessible, restrooms – the works. It also has a "break room" suitable for presentations, meetings, and general cinematic tomfoolery. *322-0145.* **www.austinstudios.org**.

The Screenplay Workshop: Winter Classes **Fundamentals** *Tuesdays, Jan. 19-Feb. 16, 7-9:30pm*, or *Saturdays, Jan. 23-Feb. 20, 1:30-4pm. $225*. **Master Class** *Tuesdays, Jan. 19-March 23, 7-9:30pm*, or *Saturdays, Jan. 23-March 27, 1:30-4pm. $395*. **Introductory Script Consultation** A 1½-hour private consultation on your screenplay or screenplay ideas. *$70*. **Private Instruction and Story Consultation** Five sessions, 90 minutes per session. *$370*. All classes taught by professional screenwriters. See website for details. **www.thescreenplayworkshop.org**.

***Heroes and Legends of the Texas State Cemetery* (2009)** @Texas Spirit Theater at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, noon, 5pm. (See Thursday, 1/7.)

"Wild Texas Weather" (2009) @Texas Spirit Theater at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 10:30am, 11:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30pm. (See Thursday, 1/7.)

WEDNESDAY 13

***Ed Wood* (1994)** See p.62.

***Edward Scissorhands* (1990)** *D: Tim Burton; with Johnny Depp, Winona Ryder, Conchata Ferrell, Kathy Baker, Anthony Michael Hall, Alan Arkin, Vincent Price, Dianne Wiest. (PG-13, 100 min.)* **Winter Film Series: Mel Brooks and Tim Burton Double Features.** Burton's combination of fantastic and real imagery add to this story's dreamy but satiric edge. Depp, as the the fragile but irresistibly fabulous title character, is "sheer" delight. @Paramount, 7pm.

***Kill Squad* (1981)** *D: Patrick G. Donahue; with Cameron Mitchell, Jerry Johnson, Jeff Risk, Jean Glaudé. (R, 89 min.)* **Weird Wednesday.** A Vietnam vet assembles a martial arts vigilante squad to murder the thugs who killed his wife. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 12mid.

***Pulp Fiction* Quote-Along (1994)** @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 10:30pm. (See Thursday, 1/7.)

***Trouble the Water* (2008)** See p.62.

SPACES

Drop Dead Fred @Rounders Pizzeria, 7pm. (See Tuesday.)

***Heroes and Legends of the Texas State Cemetery* (2009)** @Texas Spirit Theater at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, noon, 5pm. (See Thursday, 1/7.)

"Wild Texas Weather" (2009) @Texas Spirit Theater at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 10:30am, 11:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30pm. (See Thursday, 1/7.)

THURSDAY 14

1999 Sing-Along Action Pack. @Alamo Ritz, 10pm.

***Ed Wood* (1994)** See p.62.

***Edward Scissorhands* (1990)** @Paramount, 9:25pm. (See Wednesday.)

***Igor and the Lunatics* (1985)** *D: Billy Parolini; with Joseph Eero, Mary Ann Schacht, Joe Niola. (R, 82 min.)* **Cult Thursday.** A cult leader takes revenge after he gets out of prison. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm; free.

***Pulp Fiction* Quote-Along (1994)** @Alamo Ritz, 7pm. (See Thursday, 1/7.)

SPACES

***Heroes and Legends of the Texas State Cemetery* (2009)** @Texas Spirit Theater at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, noon, 5pm. (See Thursday, 1/7.)

"Wild Texas Weather" (2009) @Texas Spirit Theater at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 10:30am, 11:30, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30pm. (See Thursday, 1/7.)

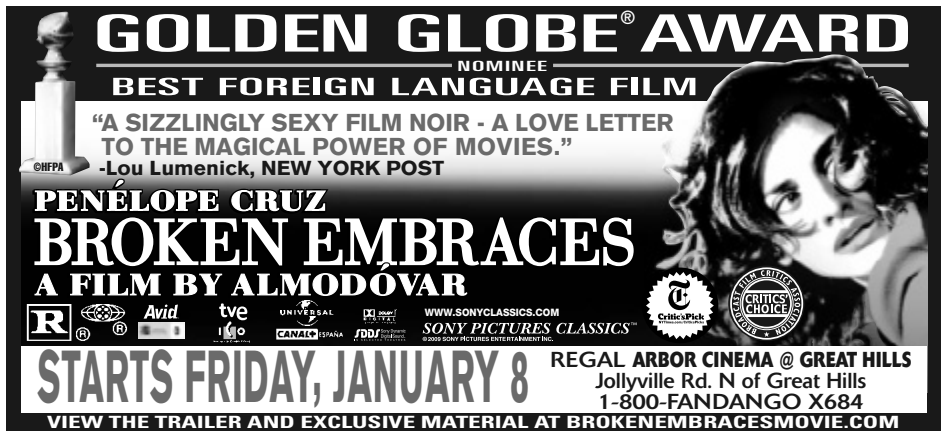
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***Avatar* (2009)** *D: James Cameron; with Sam Worthington, Zoe Saldana, Sigourney Weaver, Stephen Lang, Michelle Rodriguez, Giovanni Ribisi, Joel David Moore, CCH Pounder, Wes Studi, Laz Alonso. (PG-13, 162 min.)* (*) Thu. (1/7)-Thu. (1/14), 12:30, 3:45, 7, 10:15pm.

***Texas: The Big Picture* (2003)** *D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.)* Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as the state is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips. Thu. (1/7)-Sat., 10am; Mon.-Thu. (1/14), 10am.

***The Alps* (2007)** *D: Stephen Judson; narrated by Michael Gambon. (NR, 45 min.)* John Harlin III attempts to climb the North Face of the Eiger, the site of his father's death 40 years earlier. The music is by rock band Queen. Thu. (1/7)-Sat., 11am; Mon.-Thu. (1/14), 11am.









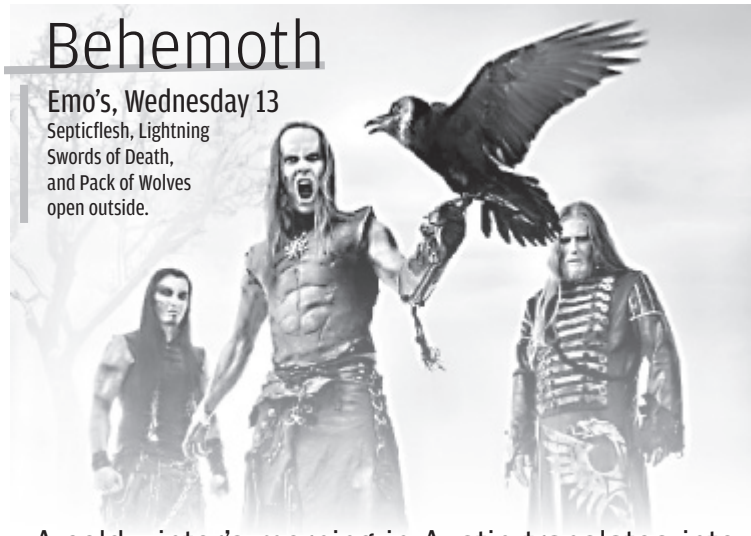
music listings

EDITED BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

Behemoth

Emo's, Wednesday 13

Septicflesh, Lightning Swords of Death, and Pack of Wolves open outside.



A cold winter's morning in Austin translates into a late night in Gdańsk, Poland, where Behemoth founder Adam "Nergal" Darski has returned after his Christmas holidays. The Polish metal trio's ninth immolation since 1991, last August's *Evangelion* (Metal Blade) pools its gargantuan pummel – think postmodern architecture set to Rosicrucian guitars and *Terminator* beats – with 2005's *Demigod* and 2007's *The Apostasy* into a metallurgic triumvirate. New oracle "The Seed ov I" summons the god of war Mars from Neptunian realms to impregnate the "womb of Babylon." There's a very fine line in metal between excoriation and melody.

"Mmm hmm," replies Darski. "Melody is kind of essential in music as a whole, you know. Even the fact that we play extreme, fast, heavy, serious music, there's always a melody."

The singer-songwriter-frontman-guitarist gives an almost exasperated sigh.

"We have a very musical approach to what we do. It's very important in Behemoth. I don't know about other bands. I'm really attracted to melodies – good melodies. I can listen to pop songs if they have great melodies. I listened to this new Lady Gaga single, and I think it's awesome, because it has this great big chorus."

Metal's wall of sound doesn't normally deliver great big choruses.

"Yeah, especially all these new extreme death metal bands, whatever you call them. There's a lot of that these days. They can shred like hell. They're fast. Their picking is amazing, and their soloing is out of control. It's great. For the technical aspect there's no question. But in terms of songwriting, there's nothing I find attractive.

"I like the rock structures. I like the fact that something repeats in a song. I like the catchiness of music, and I don't really divide it into rock and pop and metal music. To me, music is music. It's got to be catchy. I really believe that Behemoth *is* catchy. Behemoth *is* melody, as well as extreme, fast, and all this crazy shit that's going on at the same time.

"It's all about balancing it well. It's all about making it all happen, and playing passionate music, but with a hook." – *Raoul Hernandez*

More Nergal at **austinchronicle.com/earache**.

THE WAILERS

Antone's, Friday 8

The Wailers are unquestionably the best Bob Marley repertory band in the world, and Friday's 40 Years of Fams Tour at Antone's celebrates their incomparable bassist, Aston "Family Man" Barrett, who was Marley's musical director and the band's only remaining original member. The Supervillains open. – *Jay Trachtenberg*

COUNT DRACULA'S WEED SMUGGLING JAM ENGINE

Hole in the Wall, Saturday 9

The suits over at Business Deal are starting 2010 with a nice, big lungful. *Jam Sandwich* is the latest EP from local quartet CDWSJE, eight jingle jangles to totally fog out your van to. To sweeten the deal, the EP will be sold in a brown bag, though what else is in that bag shall remain a mystery. Magic Jewels and Horse + Donkey accompany. – *Audra Schroeder*

THE AUSTIN 'COBRA' GROUP

Salvage Vanguard Theater, Sunday 10

John Zorn's seminal game piece, *Cobra*, can be viewed as the ultimate improv challenge. If there's one thing Church of the Friendly Ghost loves, it's a challenge, so Sunday's group of local multi-instrumentalists gathers to indulge Zorn's composition, based around a series of musical cues noted on cards. After that, local performer Deena Odelle Hyatt performs Alex Keller's *Eustress*, in which a specially designed bass guitar is put under emotional and physical duress until it snaps. 8:30pm. – *Audra Schroeder*

ADAM FRANKLIN & BOLTS OF MELODY

Emo's, Wednesday 13

While Polish ghouls Behemoth melt corpse paint outside; Adam Franklin does it a little kinder and gentler inside. Following up 2008's fantastic Swervedriver reunion at Emo's, Franklin and his new backing band continue mining that ecstatic reverb feeling. 2009's *Spent Bullets* has a Big Star feel, all sweet harmonies and breezy guitars, but Franklin still lets the feedback rip without warning. Local acolytes Ringo Deathstarr and My Education open. – *Audra Schroeder*

THE WOOD BROTHERS

Cactus Cafe, Thursday 14

When bassist Chris Wood (Medeski Martin & Wood) and his guitarist brother, Oliver (King Johnson), aren't laboring at their day jobs, they team up as an acoustic, roots-inflected duo equally at home with blues, folk, country, and rock. Their recent eight-song release, *Up Above My Head*, is a soulful covers collection interpreting, among others, Steve Earle, Beck, Allen Toussaint, and the Beatles. – *Jay Trachtenberg*

FREE WEEK 2: ELECTRIC BOOGALOO

Friday 8-Sunday 10

FRIDAY

Emo's: The Crack Pipes, the Golden Boys, the Royal Butchers, Follow That Bird! (outside); Ume, Speak, the Authors, White White Lights, the Always Already (inside)

Mohawk: The Laughing, Low Line Caller, MoTel Aviv (outside); Christian Bland & the Revelators, Headdress, Tunnels, Cartright (inside)

Red 7: Lower Class Brats, Krum Bums, Sober Daze, Black Irish

Club de Ville: Corto Maltese, She Sir, Candi & the Strangers

Beauty Bar: Betaplayer, Stegasaurus Flex, FM Campers, Squidbucket

Stubb's: Jesse Woods

The Parish: L.A.X., Auto Body, Freshmillions, Gobi

Beerland: Mr. Lewis & the Funeral 5, Boxcar Satan

SATURDAY

Emo's: Attak (In)Formation, Tia Carrera, Broken Gold, This Horn of Afrika, Zorch (outside); the Hex Dispensers, the Sinks, the Altars, Shanghai River (inside)

Mohawk: T Bird & the Breaks, the Carrots, Ugly Beats, the Hi-Tones (outside); Missions, Death Is Not a Joyride., No Mas Bodas, Clouds Are Ghosts (inside)

Red 7: Big Mess, Watching the Moon, We'll Go Machete, Paper Shapes (outside); Shitty Carwash, Eagle Claw, White Rhino, Markov, Thieves (inside)

Club de Ville: Haunting Oboe Music, Watch Out for Rockets, We Aim to Try

Beauty Bar: Car Stereo (Wars), All My Friends, MothFight!, the Laughing

Stubb's: Leatherbag, the Pons, Danny Malone

The Parish: The Bright Light Social Hour, Frontier Brothers, Dertybird, MoTel Aviv

Beerland: Bang Bang Theodores, Wine & Revolution, Coma in Algiers, the Dead Space, Way No Way

SUNDAY

Emo's: A Giant Dog, Bad Sports, Cause for Applause, Elvis (outside); Red X Red M, Woodgrain, Eagle Claw, Odezco, Expensive Shit (inside)

Red 7: Set Aflame, Bonnie Blue, Let the Dead (6pm); Exeter, Woolgather, In Situ Sound, the Devil Rides (10pm)

Beauty Bar: String, the Madness, We're Into Survival

The Parish: Dennie Ludiker Trio, the Copper Pots

soundcheck

BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

DEL CASTILLO
Saxon Pub, Friday 8
KGSR's *Lone Star State of Mind* rocks Latinate.

TRIBUTE TO THE KING
Continental Club, Friday 8
Shaun Young's New Blue Moon Boys and Ted Roddy's King Conjure Orchestra have an Elvis sighting.

IGNITOR/SABBATH CROW
Encore, Friday 8/Saturday 9
Spiros gets a heavy metal makeover, jumping into the Free Week pool.

CRUDDY, SABERTOOTH SNATCH, DATED
Parlor, Sunday 10
Three chords delivered in two minutes or less, or it's free.

WILLIE 'BIG EYES' SMITH, PINETOP PERKINS
Antone's, Wednesday 13
Muddy's blues crew teases its upcoming collabo, *Joined at the Hip*.

DANA FALCONBERRY CD RELEASE
Mohawk, Thursday 14
The local songbird channels ghosts of Texas past on *Halletts*.

THE HAPPEN-INS, THE RIPE
Club 1808, Thursday 14
A round of rhythm and fuzz for everyone.

live music venues p.70

roadshows + club listings p.72

in-stores

Tuesday: **Ray Wylie Hubbard**, Waterloo Records, 5pm
Friday: **Sinks**, **Formaldehyde Junkies**, **Eskeletos**, Trailer Space, 7pm
Saturday: The **Spooks**, **Shapes Have Fangs**, **Wild Harem**, **Shells**, Trailer Space, 7pm
Sunday: **This Black Box**, **Our New Nation**, **Gamma Knife**, the **Black Focus**, Trailer Space, 7pm

THE LINEUP
New year, new jams at austinchronicle.com/thelineup

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THURSDAY JANUARY 7 / $5

NATHAN HUBBLE 11
JAVI GARCIA
& THE COLD COLD GROUND 9:15
NOELLE HAMPTON 8
PHIL MARSHALL 7

FRIDAY JANUARY 8 / $10

TJE AUSTIN 12
MEGGAN CARNEY 10
OTTIS COLEMAN BAND 8

SATURDAY JANUARY 9 / $8

DERRICK DAVIS 12
MAMA SWEET 10:30
BRETT RANDELL 9:15
BIG CIRCLE TX 8

SUNDAY JANUARY 10 / $7

WARREN HOOD 9:30
& THE HOODLUMS
DARREN HOFF 12:15
CARLEY WOLF 8

MONDAY JANUARY 11 / $5

SCOTCH MOUNTAIN GANG 11
MARK MONACO 9:45
SHAD BLAIR 8:15
THE BLACK RIVER BELLES 7

TUESDAY JANUARY 12 / $5 ($3 W/ STUDENT ID)

WORLD MUSIC NIGHT SPONSORED BY KUT 90.5
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AHMED ARBAB 12
AUSTIN PIAZZOLLA QUINTET 10
CERRONATO 8
CHRIS BRECHT 7
NO COVER HAPPY HR JOE MOODY BAND 5:15

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 13



THE DEAD KENNY Gs 8/$10
TED
(FEAT: DREW SMITH) 10:15/$5
DAVID JIMENEZ TRIO 11:45

UPCOMING SHOWS

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AN EVENING WITH
THE WOOD BROTHERS
8:30PM THUR JAN 14



LIVE @ THE CACTUS
IAN MOORE
8:30PM FRI JAN 15

COME ONE, COME ALL
TROUT FISHING IN AMERICA
6PM KIDS SHOW
8:30PM ALL AGES
TIX @THE DOOR
6 & 8:30PM SAT JAN 16



FROM THE COMMONWEALTH
SCOTT MILLER
8:30PM TUE JAN 19

AUSTIN'S LAFAVORITE
JIMMY LAFAVE
GUEST STAR • BETTY SOO
8:30PM FRI JAN 22



IN CONCERT@ THE CACTUS
ELIZA GILKYSON
8:30PM SAT JAN 23



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JONATHAN RICHMAN
8:30PM MON & TUE JAN 25 & 26



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TODD SNIDER
GUEST STAR
AMERICAN TRAGEDY
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8PM SAT JAN 30



TEXAS TREASURE
WHEATFIELD
8:30PM MON FEB 1

FRED EAGLESMITH
8:30PM WED FEB 3

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2.9 SOME SAY LELAND	
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2.14 CHRIS SMITHER	2.25 GENE WEEN
2.16 MIKE DOUGHTY	2. 26 GENE WEEN
2.17 MIKE DOUGHTY	2.27 SARA BRITTENS

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THURS. JAN 7, 7PM: UT VS ALABAMA!
FRI. JAN 8, 7PM: WYNN TAYLOR
SUN. JAN 10, 7PM: DAVID WOLFE & FRIENDS
TUES. JAN 12, 7PM: WILL DUNLAP
WED. JAN 13, 7PM: PTARMIGAN

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KARAOKE AFTER THE GAME!
FRI. JAN 8, 10PM: JOEY LAVALLE
FREE TEXAS HOLD 'EM 9PM & 11:30PM
SAT. JAN 9, 10PM: JUMPING FROM JETS
SUN. JAN 10, 10PM: OPEN MIC NIGHT

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SUN. 1/10 — Danny Santos y los Bluegrass Vatos — 11am Bluegrass Brunch — no cover

WED. 1/13 — Stonehoney — 7pm Sittin' Singin' & Supper — no cover

FRI. 1/15 — The Winchester Twin — 10pm — no cover

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SATURDAY 1/9

HAPPY HOUR 6-8PM
BEN BURGESS
DJ DOC

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TUESDAY 1/12

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Doors 7/ Show @ $12
Greezy Wheels 10:30pm $10
$10 With CD
RYAN YOUNG CDR 12am $10

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10TH
THE RESENTMENTS
With Bruce and Scrappy 7:30pm/$7
Joanna Barbera 10:30 $5
LINCOLN DURHAM 6pm/ $5
Little McKay Creek Band 12 $5

MONDAY, JANUARY 11TH
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8:30 $10
Matt the Electrician 7pm $10
Jeff Plankenhorn 11pm $5
STEVEN RAY WILL 12:30pm $5

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12TH
BRUCE HUGHES & THE ALL NUDE ARMY 8pm $5
Deadman 10pm $5
The Hi Tones 12am $5
No Cover Happy Hour Waylon Payne

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13TH
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Ouachita 12am $5
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SAT 1/16 PLAYER ONE 8PM
PRIDE & JOY 10:30PM
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SAT 01/09 9PM
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LATER DJ PROTEGE SPINS TIL 2AM

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ELEPHANT ROOM, 315 Congress, 473-2279
ELYSIUM, 705 Red River, 478-2979
EMO'S, 603 Red River, 505-8541
ENCORE, 611 Red River
EVANGELINE CAFE, 8106 Brodie, 282-2586
FADÓ, 214 W. Fourth, 457-0172
FLAMINGO CANTINA, 515 E. Sixth, 494-9336
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE, 1601 Barton Springs Rd., 480-8646
FRIENDS, 208 E. Sixth, 320-8193
THE GHOST ROOM, 304 W. Fourth, 879-4472
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON, 5434 Burnet Rd., 458-1813
GREEN PASTURES RESTAURANT, 811 W. Live Oak, 444-4747
GRUENE HALL, 1281 Gruene Rd., New Braunfels, 830/606-1281, 830/629-5077
GÜERO'S TACO BAR, 1412 S. Congress, 447-7688
HANOVER'S, 108 E. Main St., Pflugerville, 512/670-9617
HEADHUNTERS, 720 Red River, 236-0188
HILL'S CAFE, 4700 S. Congress, 851-9300
HOLE IN THE WALL, 2538 Guadalupe, 477-4747
HOT MAMA'S ESPRESSO BAR, 2401 E. Sixth, 476-MAMA
HYDE PARK THEATRE, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY
JO'S COFFEE, 1300 S. Congress, 444-3800
JOVITA'S, 1619 S. First, 447-7825
KEY BAR, 617 W. Sixth, 236-9389
LA PALAPA, 6640 Hwy. 290 E., 459-8729
LAMBERTS, 401 W. Second, 494-1500
LAS PALOMAS, 3201 Bee Caves Rd. #122, 327-9889
LATITUDE 30, 512 San Jacinto, 472-3335
LUCKY LOUNGE, 209-A W. Fifth, 479-7700
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS, 2529 S. Lamar, 444-0261
MEAN-EYED CAT, 1621 W. Fifth, 472-6326
MOHAWK, 912 Red River, 482-8404
MOMO'S, 618 W. Sixth, 479-8848
MONARCH EVENT CENTER, 6406 N. I-35 #3100, 371-1711
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS, 3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 477-2900
NUEVO LEÓN, 1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097
NUNO'S ON SIXTH, 422 E. Sixth, 833-5133
NUTTY BROWN CAFE, 12225 Hwy. 290 W., 301-4648
ONE 2 ONE BAR, 121 E. Fifth, 473-0121
THE PARISH, 214 E. Sixth, 473-8381
THE PARLOR, 100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965
PARMER LANE TAVERN, 2121 Parmer #1, 339-0663
PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE, 5001 E. Ben White, 444-2020
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL, 22308 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-0318
RABBIT'S LOUNGE, 1816 E. Sixth, 473-3771
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE, 13450 Hwy. 183 N., 335-5115
RED 7, 611 E. Seventh, 476-8100
RED FEZ, 209-B W. Fifth, 478-5120
RILEY'S TAVERN, 8894 FM 1102, Hunter, 512/392-3132
ROADHOUSE, 1103 Wonder St., Round Rock, 512/218-0813
RUSTY SPURS, 405 E. Seventh, 482-9002
RUTA MAYA, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637
SALVAGE VANGUARD THEATER, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886
SAM'S TOWN POINT, 2115 Allred, 282-0083
SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR, 5900 Slaughter, 288-9994
SAXON PUB, 1320 S. Lamar, 448-2552
THE SCOOT INN, 1308 E. Fourth, 478-6200
SENGELMANN HALL, 531 N. Main St., Schulenburg, 979/743-2300
SHINER'S SALOON, 422 Congress Ste. D, 448-4600
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS, 11416 RR 620 N., 401-2060
SIX LOUNGE, 117 W. Fourth, 472-6662
SPEAKEASY, 412 Congress, 476-8017
ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, 606 W. 15th, 476-6757
STUBB'S, 801 Red River, 480-8341
T.C.'S LOUNGE, 1413 Webberville Rd., 926-2200
TEXAS BAR & GRILL, 14611 Burnet Rd., 255-1300
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304
THUNDERBIRD COFFEE, 2200 Manor Rd., 472-9900
TRAILER SPACE RECORDS & EVENTS CENTER, 1401-A Rosewood, 524-1445
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL, 2201 College Ave., 443-4200
TRIPLE CROWN, 206 N. Edward Gary St., San Marcos, 512/396-2236
TROPHY'S, 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, 1106 W. 38th, 451-5245
WATERLOO RECORDS, 600-A N. Lamar, 474-2500
WHIP IN, 1950 S. I-35, 442-5337
Z'TEJAS, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355

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MONDAY TRIVIA NIGHT

THURSDAY JANUARY 21ST
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VIP TABLES

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BOB SCHNEIDER & MITCH WATKINS
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SAT JAN 23RD
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ERIC TESSMER TIA CARRERA & AMPLIFIED HEAT
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JAY FARRAR OF SON VOLT & BENJAMIN GIBBARD OF DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE
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Yo La Tengo
WITH TIMES NEW VIKING
A.V.
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MISTRESS STEPHANIE AND HER MELODIC CAT & SWEETMEAT
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Fr 8	Mark Jungers 6pm Green Mountain Grass, Hendricks Mcleod 10pm
Sa 9	The Belgraves, Rooster Suicide, The Beer Gnomes 10pm
Su 10	Open Mic w/ Grant, Holly & Nate 8pm
Mo 11	Beth Lee 6pm Free Juke Box & Pool 8pm
Tu 12	Pepper's Blues 6pm Grant Ewing Band 10pm
We 13	Ron Brietzke 6pm Electric Mayhem 10pm
Th 14	Bruce Smith 6pm Funkotron, The Uniphysics 10pm

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01.15: AFROFREQUE & MIXED USE MEDIA
01.16: SUBROSA UNION, CHAMPA
01.20: DREADNECK NITE {NO COVER!}
01.22: CONTRA COUP, RIVERCITY ALL-STARS
01.29: THE BANDULUS, RYAN SCROGGSIN & THE TRENCHTOWN TEXANS
02.06: BOB MARLEY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!
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club listings

Ⓐ ALL AGES VENUE Ⓡ ROADSHOW ✪ RECOMMENDED ♪ HEAR MUSIC ONLINE

THU 07

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Paul Glasse, Redd Volkaert, Cindy Cashdollar, Nate Rowe (7:30)

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Colin Sweitek

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Jimi Lee (8:00)

BEERLAND Free Week w/ the Zoltars, Flesh Lights, John Schooley's One Man Band, Black Panda

BOTTICELLI'S Shawn Nelson (7:30)

BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton♪ (6:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Longhaul (9:00)

CLUB DE VILLE Free Week w/ Masonic, Prayer for Animals, Smoke & Feathers

CONTINENTAL CLUB Wisebird ✪, Gallery: Continental Graffiti (10:00); In the Club: Planet Casper (6:30); Bruce James, Wisebird (10:00)

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Lobby Bar: Graham Weber (6:00)

EDDIE V'S PRIME SEAFOOD Tameca Jones

ELEPHANT ROOM Nathan Hook (6:00), Butch Miles (9:30)

EMO'S Free Week, Outside: Heart & Soul Sound System, the Sandworms, Nick Curran & the Lowlifes, Skeletons, the Jungle Rockers; Inside: The Eastern Sea, Haunting Oboe Music, Red Leaves♪, Yellow Fever, MothFight!

ENCORE Paper Shapes, Crash Gallery, Obsolete Machines

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Troy Campbell (6:00), Open Mic w/ Lisa Kettyle (8:00)

FRIENDS Ugly Elephant, Eric Tessmer (7:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Robbie & the Rogues (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Josh Grider (7:00)

HEADHUNTERS Suckerfish, Alicat Project, Radio Fallout, Disciples of Sound

HOLE IN THE WALL White Cotton, Isle of White♪

LA PALAPA Triple Shot (7:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band (6:00)

MOHAWK Free Week, Outside Stage: The Great Nostalgic♪, TV Torso; Inside Stage: Many Birthdays♪, Daniel Francis Doyle, Transmography, Ume

MOMO'S Phil Marshall, Noelle Hampton, Javi Garcia & the Cold Cold Ground, Nathan Hubble

ONE 2 ONE BAR Spit & Tears (9:00)

THE PARISH Free Week w/ Wiretree♪, Zookeeper, Suzanna Choffel♪, Sounds Under Radio (8:00)

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Jeff Wood (7:30)

RED 7 Free Week, Outside: Flowers, Cowabunga Babez, the Strange Attractors, Shapes Have Fangs, Hacienda; Inside: Get Action ✪Ⓡ

RED FEZ DJ Cashless (10:00)

RUTA MAYA Root Dimension, Irie Jane, Avenue Elle (9:00)

SAXON PUB L.L. Cooper Ⓡ

SENGELMANN HALL Trevor Cole, Heather Kolacny

SPEAKEASY The Space Rockers (9:30)

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND PRINTED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS. Acts are listed chronologically. Schedules are subject to change, so call clubs to confirm lineups. Start times are provided where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: Music listings deadline is Monday mornings, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Please indicate roadshows and residencies. Send venue name, address, phone, acts, and start times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; phone, 454-5766 x159; e-mail, **clubs@austinchronicle.com**.

Austin bands: We want to hear from you. If you haven't registered and uploaded your MP3s to the Musicians Register, go to austinchronicle.com/register. Anywhere your band is mentioned, your music will be featured.

STUBB'S Free Week w/ Jessi Torissi, White Dress, The White Hotel♪

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS & EVENTS CENTER Naw Dude, Trasher, BSOM (6:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Ricky Stein, the Jocks

TROPHY'S Two Hoots & a Holler

WATERLOO RECORDS 100 Monkeys (5:00) Ⓡ

Z'TEJAS Dream Lovers (6:00)

FRI 08

ANTONE'S The Wailers (9:00) ✪Ⓡ

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Ranch Road 12 (7:30)

BABY ACAPULCO NO. 5 Frank Gomez Band (7:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Michael Holt (10:30)

BEAUTY BAR Free Week w/ Squidbucket, FM Campers, Stegasaurus Flex, Betaplayer♪ Ⓡ

roadshows

january

THU 7

Hacienda, Red 7
L.L. Cooper, Saxon Pub
100 Monkeys, Waterloo Records

FRI 8

The Wailers, Antone's
Squidbucket, Beauty Bar
Boxcar Satan, Beerland
Candi & the Strangers, Club de Ville
Berkley Hart, Flipnotics Coffeespace
Red Alert, Hanover's
Whiskeydick, Headhunters
Meggan Carney, **Ottis Coleman**, Momo's
Harry Bodine, One 2 One Bar
Auto Body, the Parish

SAT 9

Dead Space, Beerland
Cash'd Out, Continental Club
The Sinks, Emo's
Bay of Pigs, Encore
Big City Bombers, Headhunters
Odis, Lucky Lounge
Julie Schurr, Rusty Spurs
The Whalers, Trophy's

SUN 10

The Madness, **We're Into Survival**, Beauty Bar
Bugs Henderson, Gruene Hall
Sabertooth Snatch, the Parlor
Exeter, **the Devil Rides**, **Bonnie Blue**, Red 7
Tavana, Speakeasy

TUE 12

Tuco, Botticelli's
Rodney Hayden, Gruene Hall
Zebras, Headhunters
Ahmed Arbab, **Derrick Gleeson**, Momo's
Waylon Payne, Saxon Pub

WED 13

Willie "Big Eyes" Smith, Antone's
Adam Franklin & Bolts of Melody, Emo's
Behemoth, **Lightning Swords of Death**, **Septicflesh**, Emo's
Ouachita, Saxon Pub

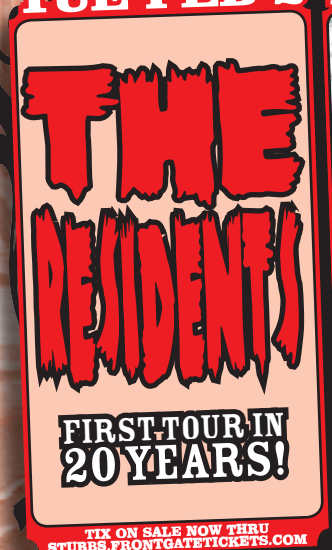
THU 14

The Wood Brothers, Cactus Cafe
Cedric Burnside & Lightnin' Malcolm, Continental Club
Ugly Lion, **Idiginis**, Flamingo Cantina

WALLER CREEK AMPHITHEATER

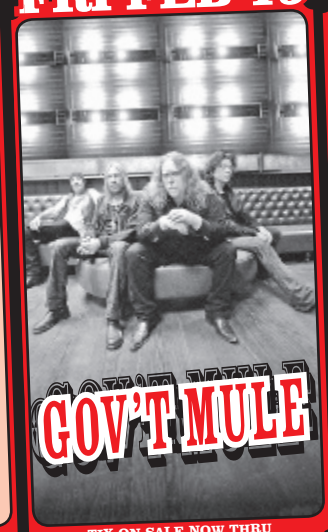
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TUE FEB 2



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FRI FEB 19



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WED FEB 24



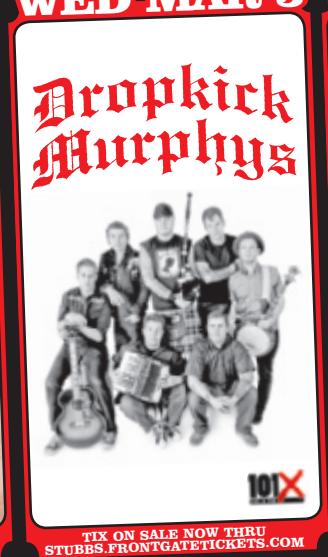
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FRI FEB 26



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WED MAR 3



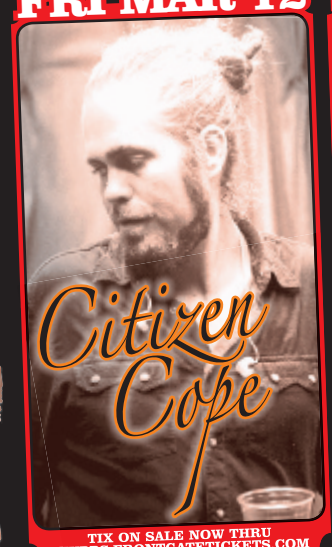
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SAT MAR 6



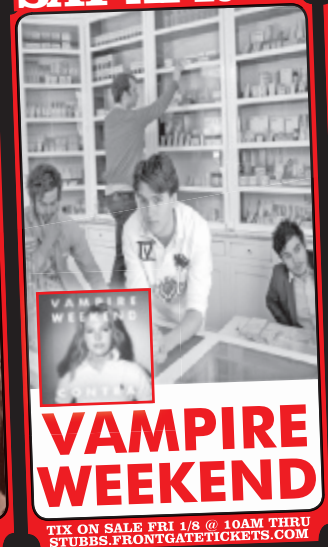
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FRI MAR 12



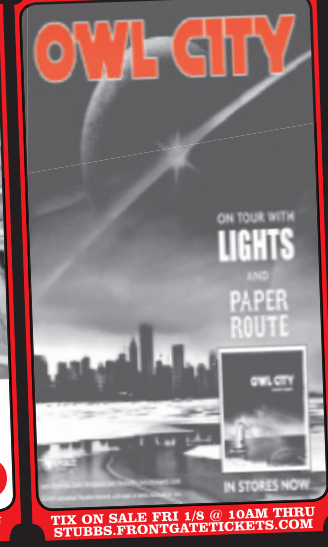
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SAT APR 10



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THU APR 15



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FREE SHOW
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FRI JAN 8 — DOORS 9PM
FREE SHOW
JESSE WOODS
WITH THE MERCERS
SAT JAN 9 — DOORS 9PM
FREE SHOW
LEATHERBAG
WITH THE PONS & DANNY MALONE

SUN JAN 10
GOSPEL BRUNCH -HOLY- WITH
THE DURDENS
FRI JAN 15 — DOORS 10:30PM
PARADISE TITTY
SAT JAN 16 — DOORS 9PM
FEVER IN THE FUNKHOUSE
WITH KEVIN MCKINNEY OF SOULHAT
WED JAN 20 — DOORS 9PM
THE SPLIT SECOND TOUR
FEATURING LANGUAGE ROOM
WITH COURRIER AND MAHONEY
THU JAN 21 — DOORS 9PM
REPRESENT AUSTIN PRESENTS
MORAKESTRA
WITH MAGNET SCHOOL AND ST. CLOUD
FRI JAN 22 — DOORS 9PM
PERPETUAL GROOVE
SAT JAN 23 — DOORS 9PM
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WITH THE RIPE AND ENGLISH TEETH
THU JAN 28 — DOORS 9PM
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FRI JAN 29 — DOORS 9PM
THE SOLDIER THREAD
WITH MYNAMEISJOHNMICHAEL
SAT JAN 30 — DOORS 9PM
THE BLUE HIT
WITH SOME SAY LELAND AND DOMINIC HENRICKZ
SUN JAN 31
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RICKY CALMBACH

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Saturday, January 16th
HONEYBROWNE

Friday, January 22nd
MIDNIGHT RIVER CHOIR

Saturday, January 23rd
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Friday, January 29th
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fr 8 Mr. Lewis & the Funeral 5, Reverend Glasseye, Boxcar Satan
sa 9 Bang Bang Theodores, Wine & Revolution, Coma in Algiers, Dead Space, Way No Way
su 10 Alone Together 2- solo sets by Billy Steve (Crack Pipes), Max (Fleshlights), Quin (Dead Space), Ben (Gospel Truth), Orville (Bad Sports), Chris (Dikes of Holland), Jared (Zoltars)
mo 11 ROCK & ROLL KARAOKE @ 9PM
tu 12 Red River Hayride- Dirty Charlie Band, Izzy Cox, Robert Allen Caldwell
we 13 OBN III's, Holy Wave, E. Static
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FRIDAY-JANUARY 8: NEW DISASTER, GENTLEMEN'S SOCIAL CLUB, DUKE, MARSHALL DYLAN
SATURDAY-JANUARY 9: BUTCHERWHITE, KOVEN THE LEVIATHAN, PORIFERA, THE FIGHT OF OUR LIVES, POST SOCIETY
SUNDAY-JANUARY 10: THE JOHN WILKES YOUTH BRIGADE, LIFE AFTER NINE, ABANDONED EXPERIMENT, NICELY BROKEN
MONDAY-JANUARY 11: DIRTY DEUCE, IN THE LOUNGE @ 10PM, FREE SHOW
TUESDAY-JANUARY 12: NORTHERN PARADOX, THE WHALERS, SYNTHETIC ELEMENTS, AND IN THE LOUNGE @ MIDNIGHT, ARENA 21
WEDNESDAY-JANUARY 13: FUNK DIRTY, MAJOR MAJOR MAJOR, GREG VENDETTI, LUX DIVON, @ IN THE LOUNGE ALL NIGHT MATTHEW'S IPOD NIGHT
THURSDAY-JANUARY 14: ALASKA GREEN (FEATURING MEMBERS 6'S & 8'S), EDEN BURNING, DIESEL & DIXIE, 33 OVERDOSE, KUERVO KREW
FRIDAY-JANUARY 15: HONKY, REDD VOLKAERT, BOB BLEED
SATURDAY-JANUARY 16: BRINK OF DISASTER, SCRAPS OF LIFE, LUG, HARD LINE FACE, FROM SKY TO CENTER
UPCOMING SHOWS:
01/22 - HAMMER, SNAKESKIN PRISON, VELVET BRICK, THE SINGE
01/23 - VEGAS BOMB, 7 DAY TRIP, LOST JULY
01/29 - ANDROID NO!, STEGOSAURUS LIPS & MORE
01/30 - BOMBING STASSNEY, OAK IS KEEPING
02/05 - ZLAM DUNK, GIGGLE PARTY
02/06 - ADRIAN & THE SICKNESS, SHE CRAVES
02/10 - PAUL DIANNO, ICARUS WITCH
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MENTAL ASYLUM
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Friday • Jan 8 SPECIAL EVENT!
MADCHESTER
Factory Records/Hacienda Night
featuring music from the 80's & 90's Manchester scene
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DJs ASURASUNIL, NONE & SHERVIN
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goth, INDUSTRIAL, synthpop, & EURODANCE
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Sunday • Jan 10 REGRESSION
RETRO 80's RETRO 80's RETRO 80's
WITH DJs PUMPKIN SPICE & BOBA FETT
Tuesday • Jan 12 ROCK BAND
The ROCK BAND Experience
WITH DJ MINIMUS
Wednesday • Jan 13 MID-WAVE
UNDERGROUND retro & OLD SCHOOL goth
WITH DJs PUMPKIN SPICE & EDMINISTER
UPCOMING EVENTS
Thu. Jan 14 • StonEDAkotA 12 AM, Keletiel 11 PM, Egshan 10 PM
Fri. Jan 15 • RETURN TO PLANET 9 - 80's New Wave w/ DJ Roger Wilson
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CLUB LISTINGS FROM FRIDAY

BEERLAND Free Week w/ Boxcar Satan, Mr. Lewis & the Funeral 5 Ⓡ

BLU Christian Barbutto (7:00)

BOTTICELLI'S Grupo Gruvo (8:00)

'BOUT TIME DJ Element

BROKEN SPOKE Dance Lessons, James Hand♪ (8:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE The Mockingbirds, Mad Cowboys (7:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Javi Garcia & the Cold Cold Ground (9:30)

CHINATOWN DOWNTOWN Lucky Strikes (9:00)

CINDY'S GONE HOG WILD Mary's Distraction (9:00)

CLUB DE VILLE Free Week w/ Candi & the Strangers; She, Sir; Corto Maltese Ⓡ

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike Flanigin Trio (10:00); In the Club: Tribute to The King w/ Shaun Young's New Blue Moon Boys, Ted Roddy & the King Conjure Orchestra (7:00, 11:00) ✪

COTTON CLUB Ricky Adams Band (8:30)

COUPLAND DANCEHALL Steven Franks

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Mario Matteoli, Camptown Ladies (6:00)

EDDIE V'S PRIME SEAFOOD Kris Kimura Quartet (8:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Nathan Hook (6:00), Elias Haslanger (9:30)

The King's B-day Bash!
with THE COLA SISTERS
ADRIAN & THE SICKNESS
DARLING NEW NEIGHBORS
MELISSA BRYAN
THE RUSTICATORS
ELVIS COSTUME and DANCE CONTEST!
Fri, Jan 8 @ 10
Ruta Maya

EMO'S Free Week, Outside: Follow That Bird!, the Royal Butchers, the Golden Boys, the Crack Pipes; Inside: the Always Already, White White Lights, the Authors♪, Speak, Ume ✪

ENCORE Free Week w/ Ignitor ✪

FADÓ The Blaggards (10:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Free Week w/ Organic Mechanics, Mystic Moot, Erik Telford Collective♪ (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Loose Leaves, Berkley Hart, Barbara Nesbitt (6:00) Ⓡ

FRIENDS J.T. Coldfire, Soulution♪ (5:00)

THE GHOST ROOM The Baker Family, Mobley♪ (10:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dane Sterling (9:00)

HANOVER'S Red Alert♪ (9:00) Ⓡ

HEADHUNTERS Whiskeydick, Teenage Kamikaze, Head Panic♪, East Texas Kings, Flesh Lights, Street Light Suzie♪ Ⓡ

HILL'S CAFE Whiskey Jones

HOLE IN THE WALL Hoodrats, Open Casket, Death Kings, Flash Boys (9:00)

JOVITA'S Girl Guitar, Cover Girl, Blues Mafia♪ (6:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE JJ Usher, DJ Diamond Tip (9:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Reid Wilson & His So-Called Friends (9:00)

MOHAWK Free Week, Outside Stage: MoTel Aviv, Low Line Caller,the Laughing; Inside Stage: Cartright, the Tunnels, Headdress, Christian Bland & the Revelators

MOMO'S Ottis Coleman, Meggan Carney, Tje Austin♪ (8:00) Ⓡ

ONE 2 ONE BAR Harry Bodine♪, Alan Haynes (8:30) Ⓡ

THE PARISH Free Week w/ Gobi, Freshmillions, Auto Body, L.A.X. Ⓡ

THE PARLOR Boats (9:00)

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE J.T. Junior Band (7:30)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL The Working Poor, Guy Forsyth

RED 7 Free Week, Outside Stage: Black Irish, Sober Daze, Krum Bums, Lower Class Brats; Inside Stage: DJ Sambo

RED FEZ DJ Jayson Lee (10:00)

RUTA MAYA Paul Green School of Rock Music, Adrian & the Sickness, Darling New Neighbors, Rusticators, Melissa Bryan (7:00)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Jeff Lofton (7:00)

SAXON PUB Earl Poole Ball & the Cosmic Americans (6:00), The Saturday Nights, Del Castillo (8:00) ✪

SENGELMANN HALL Ruby Jane Smith

SHINER'S SALOON Laura Lee Bishop

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS The Space Rockers (9:00)

SPEAKEASY Dysfunkshun Junkshun (9:30)

ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH Conspirare w/ Craig Hella Johnson (8:00)

STUBB'S Free Week w/ Jesse Woods

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Franklin's Blues

THUNDERBIRD COFFEE Box of Baby Birds, Carley Wolf & the Howls, White Squirrell Music Project

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS & EVENTS CENTER Eskeletos, Formaldehyde Junkies, Sinks (7:00)

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Silver Creek (7:30)

TRIPLE CROWN Mark Jungers, Hendicks McLeod, Green Mountain Grass

TROPHY'S Chicken Shift, Turnstyle, the Beaumonts

SAT 09

ARTZ RIB HOUSE The Flyin' A's (7:30)

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET DOWNTOWN Yellow Lady Slipper (10:00am)

BABY ACAPULCO NO. 3 Frank Gomez Band (8:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Altar Boyz (10:30)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7 • 7PM
UT CHAMPIONSHIP VS. ALABAMA ON THE TVS
FRIDAY, JANUARY 8 • 10PM • $5
2 HOOTS AND A HOLLER BLACK CAT REUNION
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AUSTIN CAJUN ACES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 12
BRENNEN LEIGH 6PM
KEVIN GALLAUGHER 8PM
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13 • 7PM
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10PM: MIKE FLANIGIN
8:30PM JON DEE GRAHAM
AND ELIZA GILKYSON

• MONDAY // 10PM
BRUCE JAMES SOULTET

• TUESDAY // 10PM
EPHRAIM OWENS EXPERIENCE

• WEDNESDAY
10PM: TRUBE, FARRELL & SNIZ
EVERY WED. 8-10PM: JON BLONDELL

THUR JANUARY 7
HAPPY HOUR
PLANET CASPER
12AM



WISEBIRD
10PM BRUCE JAMES SOULTET

FRIDAY JANUARY 8
NO HAPPY HOUR TODAY
TRIBUTE TO THE KING
Shaun Young's New Blue Moon Boys &
Ted Roddy's King Conjure Orchestra
Early Show - Doors @ 6:30,
Show @7PM
Late Show - Doors @10:30,
Show @ 11PM

SATURDAY JANUARY 9
MATINEE 3-7PM REDD VOLKAERT



12AM
JESSE DAYTON CA$H'D OUT



10PM
SUNDAY JANUARY 10
WITH REDD VOLKAERT
AND EARL POOLE BALL
10PM HEYBALE

MONDAY JANUARY 11
H. H. Olivier Giraud's Continental Graffiti
DALE WATSON AND HIS LONESTARS



10PM

TUESDAY JANUARY 12
HAPPY HOUR 6:30
TONI PRICE



BARFIELD
10:30PM



TYRANT OF TX FUNK

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 13
H. H. ELANA JAMES
AND ERIK HOKKANEN
JAMES McMURTRY
10:30PM



12AM
JON DEE GRAHAM

THURSDAY JANUARY 14
HAPPY HOUR PLANET CASPER
12PM CEDRIC BURNSIDE & LIGHTNIN' MALCOLM
10PM TOPAZ & MUDPHONIC

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FREE SHOW WITH... 12AM DISCO EXPRESSIONS
10PM LIGHT ROCK EXPRESS

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MATINEE 3-7PM REDD VOLKAERT
12AM Li'l Cap'n Travis
11:15PM LONESOME HEROES
10PM THE LOW LOWS

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SUNDAY 12:30 - 3 PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8
MARSHALL FORD SWING BAND
swing dance music

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9
TINY TIN HEARTS
orchestra pop

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10
COURTNEY SANCHEZ QUARTET
jazz

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15
BECKHAM BROTHERS
folk rock

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16
ERIK HOKKANEN
surf, twang, gypsy

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7
MARGO VALIANTE
sweet soulful songs

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8
IRON CITY SOUL SHAKERS
straight-up soul

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9
GRAHAM WILKINSON
groove driven americana

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10
LUCKY STRIKES
swing

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13
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JAN 22 – Two High String Band	JAN 15 – Lisa Marshall
JAN 23 – Danny Brooks	JAN 16 – Long Star Swing
JAN 24 – Sarah Dinan Group	JAN 17 – Sarah Temple Quartet
JAN 29 – Cienfuegos	JAN 20 – Malford Milligan & John Gaar
JAN 30 – Austin Friends of Traditional Music Showcase	JAN 21 – Steve Blum Trio
	JAN 22 – Jenny Reynolds

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CLUB LISTINGS FROM SATURDAY

BEAUTY BAR Free Week w/ the Laughing, MothFight!, All My Friends, Car Stereo (Wars)

BEERLAND Free Week w/ Way No Way, the Dead Space, Coma in Algiers♪, Wine & Revolution, Bang Bang Theodores Ⓡ

BOTTICELLI'S 3-Piece Suit (8:00)

'BOUT TIME DJ Element (9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Dance Lessons, Alvin Crow (8:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Tom Grzinich, World Racketeering Squad, the Night, Invisible Inks (7:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Forest Wayne Allen (9:30)

CHERRYWOOD COFFEEHOUSE Bedbugs & Bacon

CHINATOWN DOWNTOWN Chris Maresh (9:00)

CLUB DE VILLE Free Week w/ Haunting Oboe Music, Watch Out for Rockets, Burning Hotels

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Continental Graffiti (10:00); In the Club: Redd Volkaert (3:00); Cash'd Out, Jesse Dayton♪ (10:00) Ⓡ

COTTON CLUB Brodie Lane (8:30)

COUPLAND DANCEHALL Ricky Calmbach

DONN'S DEPOT Kenny & the Lunatics

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Lobby Bar: Patricia G. (7:00)

EDDIE V'S PRIME SEAFOOD Mark Goodwin (8:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Blaze (9:30)

EMO'S Free Week, Outside: Zorch, This Horn of Afrika, Broken Gold, Tia Carrera, Attak (In)Formation; Inside: Shanghai River, the Altars, the Sinks, the Hex Dispensers Ⓡ

ENCORE Free Week w/ Sabbath Crow, the Dickens, Bay of Pigs ✪Ⓡ

FLAMINGO CANTINA Don Chani (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Laura Freeman & the Hey Lollies (10:00am); Grace London, Curtis McMurtry & God's Chosen People, the Audiophiles (6:00)

FRIENDS Casey Epps, Swamp Sauce (4:00)

THE GHOST ROOM Paper Threat, Astronaut Suit (10:00)

GRUENE HALL Ted Kamp (1:00), the Gourds (9:00)

HANOVER'S Go 4 Broke (9:00)

HEADHUNTERS Big City Bombers, Trash Rockets, Dolly Rockers, Blue Flames Ⓡ

HILL'S CAFE Shad Blair

HOLE IN THE WALL Horse + Donkey♪, Magic Jewels, Count Dracula's Weed Smuggling Jam Engine (9:00) ✪

HOT MAMA'S ESPRESSO BAR A Crack in the Wall (8:00)

JO'S COFFEE Chili Cook-Off w/ Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes, Woodsboss, DJ Chicken George, Chili Cold Blood (noon)

JOVITA'S Girl Guitar, Devil's Hollow (6:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Odis♪, DJ Protege (9:00) Ⓡ

MEAN-EYED CAT Wisebird (9:00)

MOHAWK Free Week, Outside Stage: the Hi-Tones, the Ugly Beats♪, the Carrots, T Bird & the Breaks; Inside Stage: Clouds Are Ghosts, No Mas Bodas, Death Is Not a Joyride., Missions ✪

MOMO'S Big Circle, TX, Brett Randall, Mama Sweet, Derrick Davis (8:00)

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS Judith Miller Band (8:30)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Allen Daniels, Eric Tessmer (8:00)

THE PARISH Free Week w/ MoTel Aviv, Dertybird♪, Frontier Brothers, the Bright Light Social Hour

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Danny Santos y los Bluegrass Vatos, the Old Holdouts (5:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Elliot Fikes

RABBIT'S LOUNGE Moving Blues (9:00)

RED 7 Free Week, Outside Stage: Paper Shapes, We'll Go Machete, Watching the Moon, Big Mess; Inside Stage: Thieves, Markov, White Rhino, Eagle Claw, Shitty Carwash

RED FEZ DJ Kurv (10:00)

RUSTY SPURS Julie Schurr (10:00) Ⓡ

RUTA MAYA Paul Green School of Rock Music, Luna Tart, Continental Graffiti, Albanie & Her Fellas (7:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Joanna Ramirez♪, Los Pistoles, Jeff & the Jumptones (9:00)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Continental Graffiti (7:00)

SAXON PUB Guy Forsyth, Greezy Wheels, Ryan Young CD Release (8:00)

THE SCOOT INN Pastor Cory Cross & the Good Ole Band (9:00)

SENGELMANN HALL Tim Hall Band (8:00)

SPEAKEASY LC Rocks (9:30)

ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH Conspirare w/ Craig Hella Johnson (8:00)

STUBB'S Free Week w/ Danny Malone, the Pons, Leatherbag♪ (9:00)

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Melodic Drifters

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS & EVENTS CENTER The Black Focus, Gamma Knife, Our New Nation, This Black Box (7:00)

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (7:30)

TRIPLE CROWN Beer Gnomes, Rooster Suicide, the Belgraves

TROPHY'S The Whalers, Shotgun Hustler, Beans & Rice, Oak Is Keeping♪ Ⓡ

WHIP IN Lee Barber, Scrappy Jud Newcomb (7:00)

SUN 10

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Friends of Traditional Music Records Nite (2:00), Russell Bros. (7:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tunes Session (9:00)

BEAUTY BAR Free Week w/ We're Into Survival, the Madness, String Ⓡ

'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (8:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Ash Family (4:00)

CLUB DE VILLE Crawling With Kings (8:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Jon Dee Graham & Eliza Gilkyson, Mike Flanigin (8:30); In the Club: Heybale! (10:00)

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00)

EDDIE V'S PRIME SEAFOOD Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Jake Langley, Chris Maresh, Rob Kazinal (9:30)

ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice

EMO'S Free Week, Outside: Elvis, Cause for Applause, Bad Sports, A Giant Dog; Inside: Expensive Shit, Odezco, Eagle Claw, Woodgrain♪, Red X Red M

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Sweet Bunch of Daisies, Lost Pines Trio, Electric Mountain Rotten Apple Gang (6:00)

FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam (8:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson (4:00)

GREEN PASTURES RESTAURANT Jacques Vilmain (11:00am)

GRUENE HALL Bo Porter (12:30), Bugs Henderson (5:00) Ⓡ

HEADHUNTERS Dave Insley's Careless Smokers, Mike & the Moonpies♪

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Music from the Heart: An 80th Birthday Tribute to Rod Kennedy

Brought to you by the PSH Foundation



Tuesday
February 2nd, 2010
7:00 PM

Paramount Theatre
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Ray Benson — Marcia Ball — Randy Rogers
Terri Hendrix — Ruthie Foster — Jimmy LaFave
Lloyd Maines — Eliza Gilkyson — Bobby Bridger
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ANGELA'S BDAY BASH!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9 - free show
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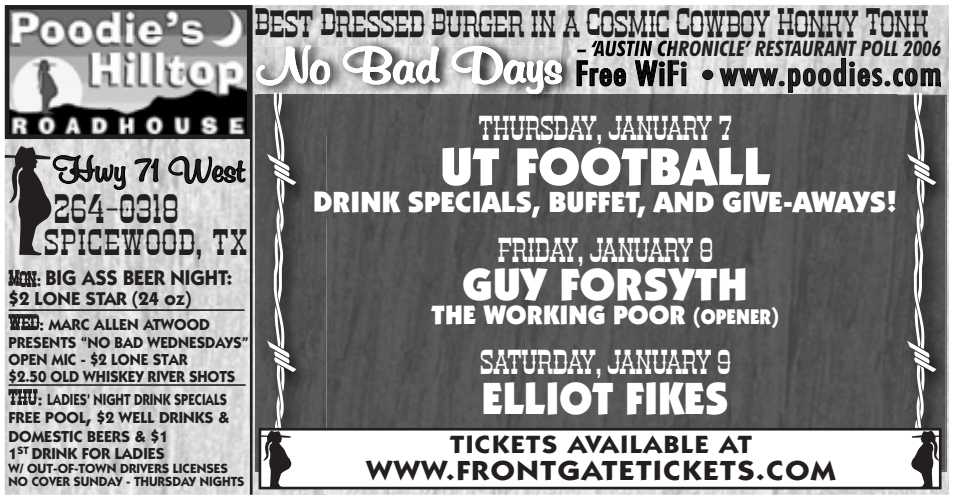
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CLUB LISTINGS FROM SUNDAY

HILL'S CAFE The Kyle Sisters

JOVITA'S Whisky Tango Family Band (8:00)

LAMBERTS Black, Red & Black (7:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Songwriters Roundtable w/ Drew Tichnell (10:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Rockin' Gospel Project (noon)

MEAN-EYED CAT Bear & the Essentials (8:00)

MOMO'S Carley Wolf, Warren Hood & the Hoodlums, Darren Hoff & the Hard Times (8:00)

NUEVO LEÓN Mariachi Relampago (1:00)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz (11:00am)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Austin Blues Society Benefit

THE PARISH Free Week w/ the Copper Pots, Dennie Ludiker Trio

THE PARLOR Dated, Sabertooth Snatch, Cruddy ✪Ⓡ

RED 7 Free Week, Let the Dead, Bonnie Blue, Set Aflame (6:00); The Devil Rides, In Situ Sound, Woolgather, Exeter (10:00) ♪ ✪Ⓡ

RED FEZ DJ Kurupt, DJ Cauze-One (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/ Glenn Allen

RUTA MAYA Michael Shay|Dum Dum & the Smarties (10:00am), Dum Dum & the Smarties (9:00)

SALVAGE VANGUARD THEATER The Austin Cobra Group, Deena Odelle Hyatt (8:00) ✪

SAXON PUB Lincoln Durham, the Resentments (7:30)

SENGELMANN HALL Holub Polka Band

SPEAKEASY Tavana (9:30) Ⓡ

ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH Conspirare w/ Craig Hella Johnson (2:30)

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Austin Friends of Traditional Music (2:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Pat Pankratz, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds

WHIP IN Southpaw Jones (8:00)

Z'TEJAS Tameca Jones (6:00)

MON 11

ANTONE'S JJ Usher, Soul Track Mind (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned (7:30)

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Jonathan Horne

BAR 141 Robbie's Open Mic (9:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Heard Showcase

BOTTICELLI'S Bobby LaRoche & David Perales (7:30)

'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (9:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Cheatham Street All-Stars (9:30)

CHEZ ZEE Rich Demarco (6:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Crybear (10:00); In the Club: Continental Graffiti (6:30), Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage

EDDIE V'S PRIME SEAFOOD Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Marshall Ford Swing Band, Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (6:00)

EVANGELINE CAFE Charles Thibodeaux & the Austin Cajun Aces (6:30)

FRIENDS Eric Tessmer (10:00)

THE GHOST ROOM Erin Ivey, the Finest Kind (9:30)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano (6:30)

HOLE IN THE WALL Woodsboss, Leo Rondeau

HYDE PARK THEATRE Eddy Hobizal (7:30)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LATITUDE 30 Chris Tondre♪ (9:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE The Makalani Movement (10:00)

MOMO'S Black River Belles, Shad Blair, Mark Monaco, Scotch Mountain Gang (7:00)

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Jo Hell & the Red Roosters

RED FEZ DJ Cause-One & DJ Taco (10:00)

RUTA MAYA Dance Lessons, the Jitterbug Vipers (8:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Blues Jam w/ Breck English (8:35)

SAXON PUB Matt the Electrician♪, Bob Schneider, Jeff Plankenhorn (7:00)

SPEAKEASY Friends of Moss (9:30)

T.C.'S LOUNGE Little Elmore Reed

TRIPLE CROWN Beth Lee (6:00)

TUE 12

THE ALLIGATOR GRILL Gator Child (8:30)

ANTONE'S Blue Tuesday w/ Derek O'Brien, Malford Milligan (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam (7:30)

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Experimental Improv

BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Suzanne Smith

BLU Joey Colarusso Trio (7:00)

BOTTICELLI'S Tuco (7:30) Ⓡ

'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Billy Garza

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Double Bogie, Jack Higginbotham (7:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Midnight River Choir (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Bruce James Soultet (10:00); In the Club: Toni Price (6:30), Barfield (10:30)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

EDDIE V'S PRIME SEAFOOD Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith w/ Jon Doyle (6:00), Jon Blondell Quintet (9:30)

ELYSIUM Nineties Night w/ DJ Boba Fett, DJ Minimus

EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh (6:00), Kevin Gallaugher (8:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Sweet Bunch of Daisies (6:00), Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (9:00)

FRIENDS Andy McIntyre, Erin Jaimes (7:00)

THE GHOST ROOM Nic Armstrong♪ (10:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Jim Stringer & the AM Band (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Rodney Hayden & Drew Kennedy (6:00) Ⓡ

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano (6:30)

HEADHUNTERS Zebras Ⓡ

HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Jon Burklund

HOLE IN THE WALL The Bread

JOVITA'S Cari Hutson (8:00)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LUCKY LOUNGE DJ Rapid Ric, Boombox w/ Carlos Sosa (10:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Texaco (8:00)

MOHAWK Michael Kingcaid, the Motts (5:00)

MOMO'S Joe Moody w/ Derrick Gleeson, Chris Brecht, Cerronato, Austin Piazzola Quintet, Ahmed Arbab (5:00) Ⓡ

ONE 2 ONE BAR Farlow, Meagan Tubb (8:30)

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Sand Sheff (7:30)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Troubadillos

Transmission Entertainment

www.transmissionentertainment.com

Mohawk
AUSTIN·TEXAS

912 red river **all are welcome.**

Th **1/7 - Brazos**, TV Torso, Great Nostalgic (out) // **Ume**, Transmography, Daniel Francis Doyle, Many Birthdays (in)
F **1/8 - The Laughing**, Low Line Caller, MoTel Aviv (out) // Christian Bland & the Revelators, Headdress, The Tunnels, Cartright (in)
Sa **1/9 -** Lucy the Poodle Presents: **T-bird and the Breaks**, The Carrots, Ugly Beats, The Hi-Tones (out) // **Missions** (ex-Clap Clap), Death is not a joyride., No Mas Bodas, Clouds are Ghosts (in)
Th **1/14 - Dana Falconberry cd release** w/ Seth Sherman, Sunset - 10pm
F **1/15 - The Astronaut Suit**, Clay Nightingale - 10pm
Sa **1/16 -** EARLY SHOW: **American Mantra**, Thieves, For Hours and Ours, Geography - 5:30pm
LATE SHOW: **Stella Rose**, One Hundred Flowers, The Bubbles - 10:30pm
Su **1/17 -** EARLY: **Anarchy Pro Wrestling** - 5pm //
LATE: **The Murdocks**, Caddywhompus, The Eastern Sea, Giant Cloud - 10pm
Tu **1/19 - Movits** (Sweden), Zorch - 10pm
W **1/20 - Possessed by Paul James**, John Schooley, Dikes of Holland - 10pm
Th **1/21 - Shapes Have Stars** - 10pm
F **1/22 -** EARLY - **Paul Green School of Rock** - 7pm //
LATE: **The Entrance Band**, Lights, Smoke and Feathers - 9pm
Sa **1/23 - Aesop Rock w/ Rob Sonic and DJ Big Wiz**, C-ray Walz, Starving Martyrs, Glitterbilies - 9pm

RED 7
611 east 7th **venue & wreck room**

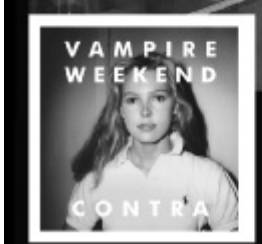
Th **1/7 - Hacienda**, Shapes Have Fangs, Strange Attractors, Cowabunga Babes, Flowers (out) // **Get Action DJs** (Sabrina E, Brother Jamal, Grandmaster B) (in)
F **1/8 - Lower Class Brats**, Krumbums, Sober Daze, Black Irish, The No No No Hopes (out) // **DJ Sambo** (of Complete Control) (in)
Sa **1/9 -** Giant Steps show: **Big Mess** (DEVO cover band), Watching the Moon, We'll Go Machete, Paper Shapes (out) // **Shitty Carwash**, Scorpion Child, Eagle Claw, Markov, Thieves (in)
Su **1/10 -** EARLY: **Set Aflame**, Bonnie Blue, Let the Dead // LATE: **Exeter**, Woolgather, In Situ Sound, The Devil Rides
W **1/13 - Chief Fuzzer**, The Couch, Blackholicious - 10pm
Th **1/14 - Zenith Fuzzbomb**, A Letter of Warning, The Buzzkillers, Able Brown - 10pm
F **1/15 - Black Milk** (Detroit Hip Hop), DJ Notion, Kill City, Theosaurus Rex, ATX Producer Showcase ... presented by N. Brown Clothing Company - 10pm // DJ Richard Henry
Sa **1/16 - The Riverboat Gamblers**, Ume, .Shapes Have Fangs, The Altars - 10pm // DJ Joe Gross
Su **1/17 -** METAL AS ART TOUR feat: **Hypno5e** (France), Revocation, Binary - 10pm
Tu **1/19 - A War Between Oceans**, Creations (Australia), Let The Dead, Man of Sorrows, I See a Ghost - 10pm
Fr **1/22 -** Yellow Bike Fundraiser w/ **Magnifico**, Eagle Claw ... Hosted by Comedy Sensation Mike Wiebe! - 10pm

UPCOMING

1/23 - **Agnostic Front** (Red 7), 1/27 - **Anti-Flag** (Red 7), 2/5 - **Prototype Fashion Show** (Mohawk), 2/6 - **Bowerbirds/Julie Doiron** (Mohawk), 2/13 - **Nouvelle Vague** (Mohawk), 2/13 - **Joe Jack Talcum** (Dead Milkmen) (Mohawk), 2/17 - **Anarchy Pro Wrestling** (Mohawk), 2/18 - **Blacklisted** (Red 7), 2/19 - **Misprint Beard & Moustache Competition** (Mohawk), 2/20 - **Four Tet/Nathan Fake** (Mohawk), 2/23 - **Laura Veirs & The Hall of Flames** (Mohawk), 2/24 - **Pretty and Nice** (Mohawk), 2/27 - **Appleseed Cast** (performing low level owl vol 1 & 2) (Mohawk), 3/1 - **Clientele/Vetiver** (Mohawk), 3/2 - **Scout Niblett** (Mohawk), 3/13 - **Sixteen Deluxe Reunion** (Mohawk), 3/13 - **Xiu Xiu** (Red 7)

VAMPIRE WEEKEND





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Every Sunday 4pm-Close

SIN TUESDAYS
$1 Select Beers $2 Wells
Food Specials All Night!
4pm-Close

LIVE MUSIC
NO COVER ALL WEEK

THURSDAY JANUARY 7
BIG SCREEN TV'S! FOOD & DRINK SPECIALS!
NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP WATCH PARTY!

FRIDAY JANUARY 8
GIRL GUITAR 6-7 PM
HAPPY BIRTHDAY DAVID BOWIE HOOT NIGHT!
COVER GIRL & FRIENDS 7:30-9 PM
HAPPY BIRTHDAY PATRICK!
BLUES MAFIA & FRIENDS 9:30-11:30 PM



SATURDAY JANUARY 9
GIRL GUITAR 6-7 PM
DEVIL'S HOLLOW & FRIENDS 7:30 -11 PM



SUNDAY JANUARY 10
WHISKEY FAMILY TANGO BAND 6-8 PM

MONDAY JANUARY 11
CLOSED

TUESDAY JANUARY 12
CARI HUTSON 8-10 PM

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 13
GEEKS WHO DRINK 8-10PM

the PARISH

Jan. 6th thru Jan. 10th
FREE WEEK!
L.A.X., The Bright Light Social Hour, The Frontier Brothers, DJ Mel, Sounds Under Radio, Auto Body, Wine and Revolution, Hollywood Gossip, MoTel Aviv, Wiretree, Freshmillions (joined by members of The Sword), and many more…

JAN. 16th:
Dan Dyer
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www.TheParishAustin.com



Jan. 19
Dart Music International Presents
"Backstage Pass to the World" with The Black and White Years
Award recipents include Jim Butler, Roky Erickson, Terry Lickona, Rose Reyes
Tickets available at
www.dartmusicinternational.org

Jan. 22



Matthew and the Arrogant Sea
ON SALE NOW AT:
www.TheParishAustin.com

Jan. 23
101X/UKTX Presents
The Cribs
with Adam Green, The Dead Trees
ON SALE NOW AT:
C3presents.frontgatetickets.com

Jan. 28
WOXY, Austinist, and The Onion Present
The Fiery Furnaces
ON SALE NOW AT:
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Jan. 29
101X's Daily Dose & Next Big Thing Present
Girls with Magic Kids, The Smith Westerns
ON SALE NOW AT:
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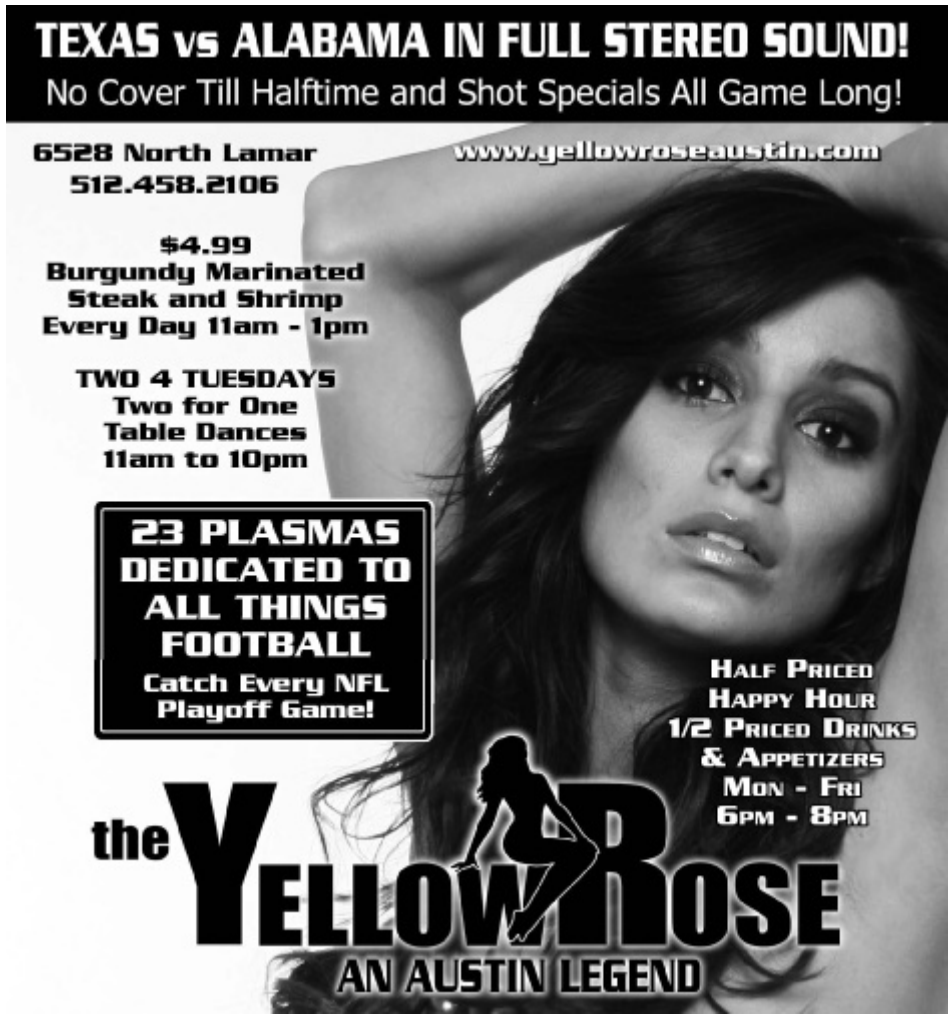
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CLUB LISTINGS FROM TUESDAY

RED FEZ Benmused Showcase, Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (9:00)

RUTA MAYA Poetry Open Mic, Music Open Mic (6:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/ Erin & Michael (9:00)

SAXON PUB Waylon Payne (5:00) Ⓡ, Bruce Hughes & the All-Nude Army, Deadman, the Hi-Tones (8:00)

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Ember (9:00)

SIX LOUNGE Lucas Cook & Abel James (9:00)

SPEAKEASY O Positivo (9:30)

T.C.'S LOUNGE Austin Heat

TRIPLE CROWN Pepper's Blues, Grant Ewing

TROPHY'S Armadillo Road (6:00), Singer-Songwriter Night (9:00)

WATERLOO RECORDS Ray Wylie Hubbard (5:00)

WED 13

ANTONE'S Pinetop Perkins, Willie "Big Eyes" Smith (9:00) ✪Ⓡ

BAR 141 Electric Mayhem (9:00)

BOTTICELLI'S Stephanie Fix (7:30)

BROKEN SPOKE T. Jarrod Bonta, Dance Lessons, Weldon Henson (6:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE George Macias, Unifonics, Funk-o-Tron (7:00)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle (9:00)

CHEZ ZEE Jacinta (7:00)

THE COCKPIT Club Inclusive w/ Julie Nolan (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Jon Blondell, Trube, Farrell & Sniz (8:00); In the Club: Shotgun Party (6:30); Jon Dee Graham, James McMurtry (10:30)

DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the Station Masters

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Lobby Bar: Hilary York (6:00), Bruce Smith (6:00)

EDDIE V'S PRIME SEAFOOD Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs (6:00), Baker's Dozen (9:30)

ELYSIUM Mid Wave w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice, DJ Edminister

EMO'S Inside: My Education♪, Ringo Deathstarr, Adam Franklin & Bolts of Melody ✪Ⓡ, Outside: Pack of Wolves, Lightning Swords of Death, Septicflesh, Behemoth ✪Ⓡ

ENCORE The Brimmers

FLAMINGO CANTINA Trish Bales & the Beautiful Dolls, Stop the Truck, Mau Mau Chaplains (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE George Carver, Dennis Ludiker, Graham Wilkinson (6:00)

FRIENDS J.T. Coldfire, Swamp Sauce (8:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Roger Wallace (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Texas Renegade (6:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Zeb Dewar, Justin Gordon, Beth Lee, Noel McKay (9:00)

KEY BAR Jukebox Heroes (8:00)

LA PALAPA Acoustic w/ James

LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Lance Kotara, Adam McInnis, Stephanie Daulong (10:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Pee Wee Moore (8:00)

MOMO'S The Dead Kenny G's, Ted, David Jimenez (8:00)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Bruce Newman's Nutty Idol

ONE 2 ONE BAR Big Circle, TX, the Twalls (8:00)

PARMER LANE TAVERN Pete Benz (9:00)

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Fingerpistol♪ (7:30), Songwriter Night (7:30)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Mark Allen Atwood

REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)

RED FEZ Get Right Kids (10:00)

RUSTY SPURS Open Mic Jam (9:00)

RUTA MAYA Dance Lessons, La Mona Loca (7:30)

SAXON PUB The Nortons (6:00), Walter Tragert, Walt Wilkins & the Mystiqueros, Ouachita (8:00) Ⓡ

SHINER'S SALOON Jeremy Steding♪ (10:00)

SPEAKEASY Soulution♪ (9:30)

T.C.'S LOUNGE Soul Track Mind

TRIPLE CROWN Ron Brietzke, Electric Mayhem

TROPHY'S J.T. Wright & Solstice (6:00)

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Ptarmigan (7:00)

Z'TEJAS Will Sexton, Stephen Doster, Bill Carter (6:00)

THU 14

ANTONE'S Dirty Wormz (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Tony Airoldi (7:30)

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Boar

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Tessmer (8:00)

BOTTICELLI'S Graham Wilkinson (7:30)

BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton♪ (6:00)

CACTUS CAFE The Wood Brothers ✪Ⓡ

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Aaron Einhouse CD Release (9:30)

CLUB 1808 The Ripe, the Happen-Ins ✪

CONTINENTAL CLUB Topaz & Mudphonic, Cedric Burnside & Lightnin' Malcolm (10:00) Ⓡ

EDDIE V'S PRIME SEAFOOD Liz Morphis (8:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Silvie Rider (6:00), Hard Proof Afrobeat♪ (9:30)

EMO'S El Bombasi, Splithoof, New Disaster♪

FLAMINGO CANTINA Axis Unity♪, Idiginis, Ugly Lion (9:00) Ⓡ

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Troy Campbell (6:00), Open Mic w/ Lisa Kettyle (8:00)

FRIENDS Brother Magnum, Casey Epps (7:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Alvin Crow (9:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Ricky Stein, the Moonhangers, the Preservation (10:00)

LA PALAPA Triple Shot (7:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band, O.J. & the Broncos (6:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT The Gunhands (8:00)

MOHAWK Dana Falconberry CD Release (9:00) ✪

MOMO'S Phil Marshall, Peter B. Squires, Kacy Crowley, Javi Garcia & the Cold Cold Ground, Spoiled Royals♪ (7:00)

MONARCH EVENT CENTER School Police, Pure Ecstasy (8:00)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Spit & Tears (9:00)

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Ila Mae (7:30)

RED FEZ DJ Cashless (10:00)

RUTA MAYA Luis Banuelos (9:00)

SAXON PUB David Holt & Tommy Shannon (6:00), Shelley King, George Devore (8:00)

SPEAKEASY The Space Rockers (9:30)

TRIPLE CROWN Bruce Smith, Unifonics, Funk-o-Tron

TROPHY'S Two Hoots & a Holler

Z'TEJAS Javier Chaparo's Eclectic Combo (6:00)

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

OUTSIDE, DOORS @ 8PM: JUNGLE ROCKERS • THE SKELETONS • THE SANDWORMS • DAVE BONE & THE TROUBLEMAKERS • HEART & SOUL SOUNDSYSTEM (DJING IN BETWEEN SETS)
INSIDE, DOORS @ 9PM: MOTHFIGHT! YELLOWFEVER • RED LEAVES HAUNTING OBOE MUSIC • THE EASTERN SEA

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8

OUTSIDE: THE CRACK PIPES • THE GOLDEN BOYS THE ROYAL BUTCHERS • FOLLOW THAT BIRD!
INSIDE, DOORS @ 9PM: UME • SPEAK • THE AUTHORS • WHITE WHITE LIGHTS • THE ALWAYS ALREADY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

OUTSIDE, DOORS @ 9PM: ATTAK (IN) FORMATION TIA CARRERA • BROKEN GOLD THIS HORN OF AFRIKA • ZORCH
INSIDE: THE HEX DISPENSERS • THE SINKS THE ALTARS • SHANGHAI RIVER

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

OUTSIDE: A GIANT DOG • BAD SPORTS CAUSE FOR APPLAUSE • ELVIS
INSIDE: RED X RED M • WOODGRAIN EAGLE CLAW • ODEZCO • EXPENSIVE SHIT

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

OUTSIDE, DOORS @ 8PM: NO CONTROL RADIO PRESENTS
BEHEMOTH
SEPTICFLESH • LIGHTNING SWORDS OF DEATH PACK OF WOLVES
INSIDE: ADAM FRANKLIN & BOLTS OF MELODY RINGO DEATHSTARR MY EDUCATION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

INSIDE: STAR OF TEXAS TATTOO CONVENTION PARTY WITH NEW DISASTER • SPLITHOOF EL BOMBASI (MEMBERS OF HONKY, HUBBLE AND PUDDING)

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

OUTSIDE: THIS WILL DESTROY YOU LYMBYC SYSTYM • SLEEP WHALE • LOXSLY
INSIDE: CRUISERWEIGHT PARACHUTE MUSICAL • WICKED CELTICS SEQUOYAH PREP SCHOOL

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

OUTSIDE: GOODIE MOB REUNION TOUR CEE-LO • BIG KIPP • KHUJO • T-MO
INSIDE: 101X HOMEGROWN LIVE PRESENTS: ZLAM DUNK FRESH MILLIONS • THE COUCH • CUSTODIAN

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

SOLD OUT
INSIDE: NEVER MOST NEVER CARTER HUSSEY • THE DENISON

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19

INSIDE: JEMINA PEARL WHITE DRESS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21

OUTSIDE, DOORS @ 8PM:
NO CONTROL RADIO PRESENTS:
KORPIKLAANI
TYR • SWASHBUCKLE
WHITE WIZZARD • VESPERIAN SORROW

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22

INSIDE, DOORS @ 5PM:
SCARY KIDS SCARING KIDS (FINAL TOUR EVER!)
DANCE GAVIN DANCE FIRE FROM THE GODS • THIEVES
INSIDE, LATE SHOW, DOORS @ 10PM:
DAX RIGGS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

OUTSIDE, DOORS @ 7PM:
FOREVER THE SICKEST KIDS
ARTIST VS. POET • DISCO CURTIS THE HIT • THE BRIGHT LIGHT SOCIAL HOUR
INSIDE, DOORS @ 7PM:
THE HOPE CONSPIRACY
BITTER END • EIGHTFIFTEEN • POWER TRIP

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

INSIDE: DEADBOLT PICKLED PUNKS • JOHNNY HOOTROCK

MONDAY, JANUARY 25

VH1 CLASSIC PRESENTS:
OUTSIDE: ANVIL
BROKEN TEETH
INSIDE: AFTERPARTY WITH GODSWILL

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

OUTSIDE, DOORS @ 6PM:
WINDS OF PLAGUE
DESPISED ICON • FOR TODAY
STRAY FROM THE PATH
THE WORLD WE KNEW • SET AFLAME

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

INSIDE, DOORS @ 7PM:
ALL THE DAY HOLIDAY
KINCH • CITY LIVES • SEARCHER

COMING SOON: • 1/29 DEX ROMWEBER DUO, EXENE CERVENKA (INSIDE) • 1/30 DIXIE WITCH, HONKY, DANNY BARNES, CORINNE ROSE (INSIDE) EARLY SHOW: THE AUDITION, THE DANGEROUS SUMMER, SPARKS THE RESCUE, THE RIGHT COAST, THE STAMPEDE (INSIDE) • 1/31 101X PRESENTS: BADFISH WITH SCOTTY DON'T, FULL SERVICE (OUT) • 2/2 101X PRESENTS: NEW FOUND GLORY WITH SAVES THE DAY, HELLOGOODBYE, FIREWORKS (OUT) / VEIL OF MAYA WITH ANIMALS AS LEADERS, CIRCLE OF CONTEMPT, PERIPHERY, FALSETTA (INSIDE) • 2/4 JOHN NOLAN (OF STRAYLIGHT RUN) WITH MANSIONS, PISTOLITA, DEAN STAFFORD (OF POMPEII) (INSIDE) • 2/5 ALEC OUNSWORTH (CLAP YOUR HANDS SAY YEAH) (INSIDE) • 2/6 THAT 1 GUY WITH MANY BIRTHDAYS (INSIDE) • 2/11 MOTION CITY SOUNDTRACK W/ SET YOUR GOALS, THIS PROVIDENCE AND THE SWELLERS (OUT) • 2/13 RJD2 W/ HAPPY CHICHESTER (OUT) • 2/13 LADERA SKATEBOARDS PRESENT WINTER BLACKOUT 2010 FT. THE EXPENDABLES, IRATION, PASSAFIRE, POUR HABIT, AND ROOTS DOWN BELOW (INSIDE) • 2/17 TAKE ACTION TOUR: WE THE KINGS W/ MAYDAY PARADE, A ROCKET TO THE MOON AND THERE FOR TOMORROW (OUT) • 2/26 GIVERS W/ CADDYWHOMPUS (INSIDE, ONSALE SAT 1/9) • 3/3 MANCHESTER ORCHESTRA W/ THE FEATURES, CHRIS STAPLES AND O'BROTHER (OUT, ON SALE 1/14) • 3/18 ALKALINE TRIO W/ CURSIVE (OUT, ON SALE 1/8) • 4/2 HOCKEY W/ SOLID GOLD (INSIDE, ON SALE SAT 1/9)

*ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT emosaustin.com, Waterloo Records, End of an Ear Records & Trailer Space

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BCS BOWL PARTY
UT vs ALABAMA
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DRINK SPECIALS ALL NIGHT LONG!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 5PM
BREWSKEEBALL SKEESON 3
BREWSKEE MUG TOURNAMENT

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14, 7PM
THE STORY DEPARTMENT
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BENEFITTING AUSTIN BAT CAVE CENTER FOR KIDS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 9PM
CAPITAL ZEN SHOWCASE
W/ WIRETREE
THE BASEMENT TAPES
DAVID NATHAN
EDDY HIGHWAY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17, 5PM
BREWSKEEBALL SKEESON 3 CHAMPIONSHIPS

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 7 ★ 10 PM ★
ISLE OF WHITE
WHITE COTTON

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8 ★ 10 PM ★ $3
FLASH BOYS
THE DEATH KINGS
OPEN CASKET
HOOD RATS

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9 ★ 10 PM ★ $3
COUNT DRACULA'S WEED SMUGGLING ENGINE
HORSE + DONKEY
MAGIC JEWELS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10 ★ 10 PM ★
DJ DEY ONE
J WESLEY HAYNES TRIO

MONDAY, JANUARY 11 ★ 10 PM ★
LEO RONDEAU
WOODSBOSS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12 ★ 10PM ★
THE BREAD AND FRIENDS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13 ★ 9 PM ★
NOEL MCKAY AND FRIENDS
BETH LEE
JUSTIN GORDON
ZEB DEWAR

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14 ★ 10 PM ★
THE PRESERVATION MOONHANGERS
RICKY STEIN AND THE 44

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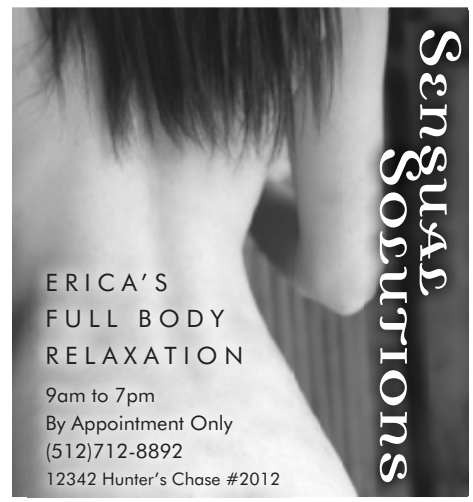
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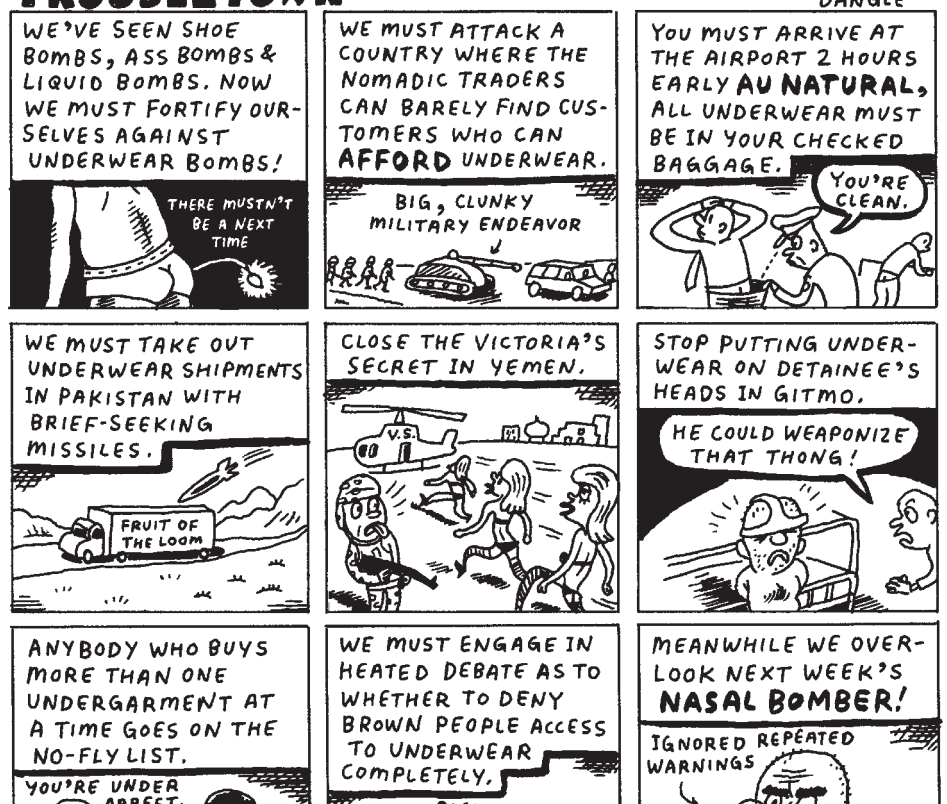
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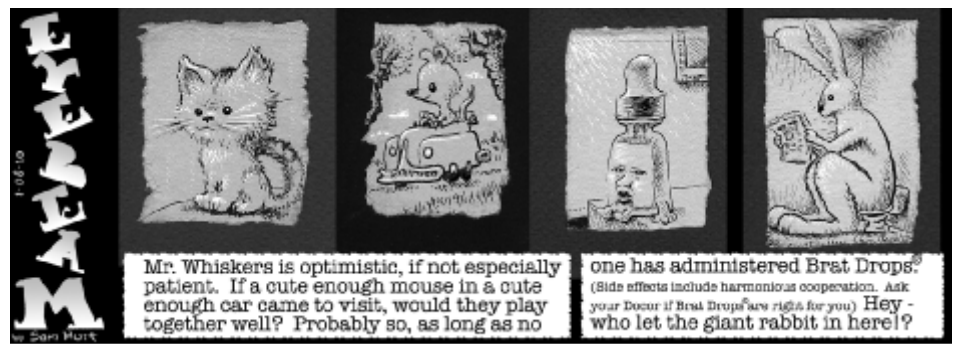
TROUBLETOWN

BY LLOYD DANGLE



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MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS



There is a prison in Rwanda that collects methane from human waste to fuel the cooking stoves.

Afghanistan flew a solid black flag from 1880 to 1901.

Two years and two weeks after George Armstrong Custer got a life insurance policy, he was killed at the Battle of the Little Bighorn. The beneficiary of the $5,000 policy was his wife, Libbie.

There are so many stray dogs and cats in the United States that in order to find a home for each one, every man, woman, and child would need to adopt at least 14 animals.

Gumby's father's name was Gumbo.

The above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, *or e-mail* **mrpants@austinchronicle.com.**

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TMI Coating, Inc. is bidding on the Pilot Knob Reservoir Improvements project for the City of Austin. We are hereby soliciting quotes from minority and women-owned businesses for participation in subcontract work including but not limited to

-Paint and/or abrasive supply
-Misc. welding
-Erosion control and site restoration
-Dehumidification supply
-Trucking and/or hauling
-Pipe and valve modifications
-Site clean-up
-Facility site rental
-Electrical and cathodic protection
-Road restoration and site work
-Fence and mow strip repairs

Specs are available at the City of Austin or through TMI.

Contact Ben Nicholson at 651-452-6100 or

bnicholson@tmicoatings.com. All bids must be received

in our office no later than 2:00 P.M. on 1/12/10

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DO YOU REGULARLY CONSUME TOBACCO PRODUCTS LIKE CIGARETTES, DIP, CHEW OR SNUS?

If so, you may be eligible to participate in a clinical

research study.

Qualified Participants:

- Must be regular tobacco consumers who don't intend to quit
- 19 years of age or older, men and women
- Will attend up to 4 clinic visits and one 24-hour visit within a 37 day period

Qualified Participants May Receive:

- Financial Compensation for time and effort up to $425
- Study-related care including labs and physical exams

For more information contact us at:

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TMI Coatings, Inc. is bidding on the Pilot Knob Reservoir Improvements project for the City of Austin. We are hereby soliciting quotes from minority and women-owned businesses for participation in subcontract work including but not limited to

-Paint and/or abrasive supply
-Misc. welding
-Erosion control and site restoration
-Dehumidification supply
-Trucking and/or hauling
-Pipe and valve modifications
-Site clean-up
-Facility site rental
-Electrical and cathodic protection
-Road restoration and site work
-Fence and mow strip repairs

Specs are available at the City of Austin or through TMI.
Contact Ben Nicholson at **651-452-6100**
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All bids must be received in our office
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If so, we need your help in a clinical research study.

To qualify, you must:
- Be at least 19 years of age
- Have used at least 1 can of dip, chew or snus per week for the past 6 months

Qualified participants may receive:
- Up to $425 in compensation for time and effort and
- Will also receive all study-related care and study evaluations at no cost

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If so, you may be eligible to participate in a clinical research study.

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS
- Must be regular tobacco consumers who don't intend to quit
- 19 years of age or older, men and women
- Will attend up to 4 clinic visits and one 24-hour visit within a 37 day period

QUALIFIED PARTICIPANTS MAY RECEIVE
- Financial Compensation for time and effort up to $425
- Study-related care including labs and physical exams

For more information contact us at:
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To qualify, you must:
• Be at least 19 years of age
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Qualified participants may receive:
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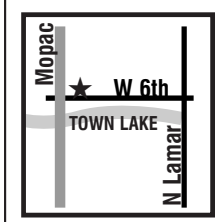
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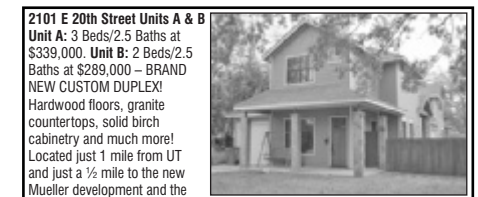
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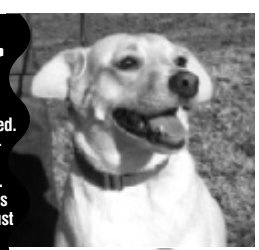
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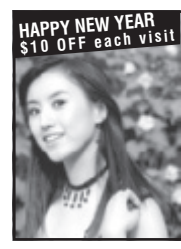
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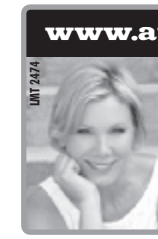
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SERVICES Here's today's "TO DO" list: Hire movers. Install toilet. Hire designer to set up website. File taxes. Learn Spanish. Where to start? *The Austin Chronicle*'s Service section.

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CAUSE NO. C-1-PB-001529 NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARY SLOAN EDELEN

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Mary Sloan Edelen, Deceased, were issued on December 3, 2009, in Cause Number C-1-PB-001529, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to:

Michael Freeman Edelen

The residence of such Independent Executor is in Travis County, Texas. The address

P.O. Box 141204

Austin, Texas 78714

All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them to Michael Freeman Edelen, at the office of Joel B. Bennett, P.C., 316 W. 12th Street, Suite 101, Austin, Texas 78701.

Dated the 5th day of January, 2010.

By: /s/ Joel B. Bennett

Attorney for Michael Freeman Edelen

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-09-006463 To: MELVIN BENJAMIN SANCHEZ and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 53RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION IN SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP AND TRAVIS COUNTY STANDING ORDER of MARBELLA MURILLO Petitioner(s), filed in said court on DECEMBER 10, 2009 against MELVIN BENJAMIN SANCHEZ Respondent(s), and said suit being entitled "IN THE INTEREST OF LUIS SANCHEZ MURILLO, ET AL CHILDREN", the nature of which suit is a request SUIT AFFECTING THE PARENT-CHILD RELATIONSHIP

The Name, Birth date, and Place of Birth of said is as follows:

LUIS SANCHEZ MURILLO

SEPTEMBER 22, 1998

HONDURAS

MELVIN SANCHEZ MURILLO SEPTEMBER 10, 1997

HONDURAS

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the child's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, December 16, 2009.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA

Travis County District Clerk

Travis County Courthouse

1000 Guadalupe,

P.O. Box 679003 (78767)

Austin, Texas 78701

By /s/ ARMANDA MARTINEZ, Deputy

REQUESTED BY:

PHILIP C FRIDAY JR

STE 1150

700 LAVACA ST

AUSTIN, TX 78701-2834

BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 472-9291

FAX: (512) 472-9302

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF WILLIAM ALBERT NARUM aka BILL NARUM Deceased, No. C-1-PB-09-001775 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

NICO D'AUTERIVE and all The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on December 30, 2009, an Application to Determine Heirship and for Appointment of Independent Administrator in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said WILLIAM ALBERT NARUM aka BILL NARUM, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on December 30, 2009.

Dana DeBeauvoir

County Clerk,

Travis County, Texas

P.O. BOX 149325

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325

By Deputy: /s/ O. RUIZ

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF STACY CHARLES CLAIR, Deceased, No. C-1-PB-09-001784 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

NANCY ANN CLAIR and all The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on December 31, 2009, an Application to Determine Heirship and Application for Independent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said STACY CHARLES CLAIR, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after the date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on December 31, 2009.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR

County Clerk,

Travis County, Texas

P.O. BOX 149325,

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325

By Deputy: /s/ O. RUIZ

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-09-006578 To: UNKNOWN FATHER and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 419TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR CHANGE OF NAME OF A CHILD of NATASHA MICHELLE GARZA Petitioner(s), filed in said court on DECEMBER 17, 2009, against UNKNOWN FATHER Respondent(s), and said suit being "IN THE MATTER OF THE CHANGE OF NAME OF ANGELINA SURAE PINEDA, A CHILD", the nature of which suit is a request CHANGE OF NAME OF A CHILD

The Name, Birth date, and Place of Birth of said is as follows:

ANGELINA SURAE PINDEDA

SEPTEMBER 8, 2005

AUSTIN, TX

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree in the CHILD's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, December 17, 2009.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA

Travis County District Clerk

Travis County Courthouse

1000 Guadalupe,

P.O. Box 679003 (78767)

Austin, Texas 78701

By /s/ IRENE SILVA, Deputy

REQUESTED BY:

NATASHA MICHELLE GARZA

12524 CAMPANA DR.

DEL VALLE, TEXAS 78617

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF DEBRA ANN HOFFMAN Deceased, No. C-1-PB-09-001728 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

JOHN FRED HOFFMAN, III and all The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on December 18, 2009, an Application to Determine Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said DEBRA ANN HOFFMAN, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on December 18, 2009.

Dana DeBeauvoir

County Clerk, Travis County, Texas

P.O. BOX 149325

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325

By Deputy: /s/ O. RUIZ

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ROSA NELL WHEELESS Deceased, No. C-1-PB-09-001023 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

BOB WHEELESS The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on August 11, 2009, an Application to Determine Heirship & Letters of Independent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said ROSA NELL WHEELESS, Deceased, and their respective

shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on December 10, 2009.

Dana DeBeauvoir

County Clerk,

Travis County, Texas

P.O BOX 149325

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325

By Deputy: /s/ MONICA LIMON

CONTRACTOR'S NOTICE OF CONSTRUCTION

IFB NO. B100092-JW

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the **APACHE SHORES SUBSTANDARD ROAD IMPROVEMENTS (IFB No. B100092-JW),** a project consisting of pavement overlay and drainage improvements to five residential roads in the Apache Shores Subdivision in western Travis County, will be received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, at the **Travis County Purchasing Office, 314 West 11th Street, 4th Floor, Suite 400, Austin, TX 78701** until **2:00 P. M. Central Standard Time, Wednesday, January 27, 2010,** then publicly opened and read aloud. **Note: The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office will serve as the OFFICIAL CLOCK for the purpose of verifying the date and time of receipt of bids.**

Copies of plans and specifications may be obtained from the **TRAVIS COUNTY PURCHASING OFFICE.** A refundable deposit of **$100.00** in the form of a cashier's check, money order, or company check payable to "Travis County" will be required for each set of bid documents that is issued. **The deposit will be refunded if the drawings and specifications are returned in good condition within 21 calendar days of the bid opening.** Copies of plans and specifications may be viewed free of charge in the Travis County Purchasing Office. **The project manual and plans can be viewed online and downloaded at www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp.** In addition, plans and specifications will be made available for viewing free of charge at various Austin-area Plan Rooms indicated in list below.

A MANDATORY pre-bid conference will be held on Wednesday, January 13, 2010, at 2:00 P.M. cENTRAL stANDARD TIME at the Travis County Purchasing Office Conference Room 314 West 11th Street, 4th Floor, Suite 400, Austin, TX 78701. A bid security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount will be required. Payments for completed work will be made in progressive payments with the County retaining five percent (5%) of each payment until final acceptance of the project. Payments will be made by check. A Payment Bond is required in the amount of one-hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount if the contract amount exceeds $25,000. A Performance Bond is required in the amount of one-hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount if the contract amount exceeds $100,000. Bidders should use unit pricing, except as provided for in the Specifications.

Historically Underutilized Businesses including Contractors, Subcontractors, and Suppliers are encouraged to participate in this project consistent with the goals of the Travis County Commissioners Court. Contractors will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations and all federal, state, and local regulations for construction safety and health standards.

The successful bidder must commence work upon issuance by the County of a written Notice to Proceed. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn for ninety (90) calendar days after the date on which they are opened.

D-1-GV-08-001462

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 200th District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of December, 2009 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-08-001462, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, Austin Independent School District County Education District, City of Austin, Maple Run at Austin Municipal Utilities District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Service District #5, and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and One Austin Capital Group, Inc. and Four D's Partnership (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$7,335.47** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 200th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 2, 2009.

I, on the 18th day of December, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of February, 2010 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 49, Block G, Maple Run Section 9, Plat No. 86/54A as described in Volume 11509, Page 886 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$7,335.47** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 21st day of December, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-08-002013

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250TH District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of December, 2009 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-08-002013, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and James Capital Corp. a/k/a James Capital, Inc., Paul E. Falls (In Rem Only), Barbara Jean Falls (In Rem Only) and Travis County, City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and County Education District (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$4,855.71** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 25, 2009.

I, on the 18th day of December, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of February, 2010 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 3008, Bar-K Ranches Plat 3, Plat No. 57/15, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in document number 2002102675 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$4,855.71** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 21st day of December, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-09-000561

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250TH District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of December, 2009 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-09-000561, wherein Austin Community College, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Pedro Emilio Gutierrez, Trustee for the Pedro E. Gutierrez Family Trust, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Pedro Emilio Gutierrez and Francisca Simona Gutierrez, Trustee for the Pedro E. Gutierrez Family Trust, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Francisca Simona Gutierrez are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$44,664.10** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 2, 2009.

I, on the 18th day of December, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of February, 2010 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 14, Block E, Barrington Oaks, Section 1, Plat No. 62/32 as described In Volume 11645, Page 21 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$44,664.10** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 21st day of December, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-09-000642

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53rd District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of December, 2009 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-09-000642, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Gene O. Parker, Jr., Julia E. Parker, NRC, Inc. formerly known as National Resort Community, Inc. also known as Bar-K Corporation (In Rem Only) and Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$6,604.70** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on November 20, 2009.

I, on the 18th day of December, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of February, 2010 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 13087, Bar-K Ranches Plat 3, Plat No. 68/21 as described in Volume 10362, Page 976 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$6,604.70** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 21st day of December, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-09-000847

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 200TH District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of December, 2009 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-09-000847, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Karl W. Holdren, Jr and Doral P. Holdren are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums:

TRACT ONE: BILLING NO.: 060204: $ 2,595.61

TRACT TWO: BILLING NO.: 060205: $ 38,637.67

TRACT THREE: BILLING NO.: 060206: $ 1,978.54

TRACT FOUR: BILLING NO.: 059510: $ 2,207.30

Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 200TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 2, 2009.

I, on the 18th day of December, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of February, 2010 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

TRACT ONE: BILLING NO.: 060204

Lot 2006, Lago Vista Civic Center Addition, Plat No. 50/21, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Volume 7785, Page 170 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

TRACT TWO: BILLING NO.: 060205

Lot 2024, Lago Vista Civic Center Addition, Plat No. 50/21, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Volume 6512, Page 2240 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

TRACT THREE: BILLING NO.: 060206

Lot 2023, Lago Vista Civic Center Addition, Plat No. 50/21, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Document No. 2000113422 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas

TRACT FOUR: BILLING NO.: 059510

Lot 3146, Lago Vista Country Club Estates, Section 10, Plat No. 48/84, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Volume 8742, Page 17 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **TRACT ONE: BILLING NO.: 060204: $ 2,595.61, TRACT TWO: BILLING NO.: 060205: $ 38,637.67**

TRACT THREE: BILLING NO.: 060206: $ 1,978.54, TRACT FOUR: BILLING NO.: 059510: $ 2,207.30

Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 21st day of December, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-204423

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of December, 2009 in a certain cause numbered GV-204423, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and VALENTINA LUCIO CAMACHO, JUANITA GONZALES, DOMINGO CAMACHO, JOSEFA SANTOS YBARRA, DANIEL ACOSTA, ARTHUR C. ACOSTA, MARIA ALICIA ACOSTA, GREGORIO CAMACHO, JULIA MORONES JOE ESPARSA, ELIDA CANTU, ADELIA YBARRA, HENRY ACOSTA, MARIA LOUISA PARDO A/K/A MARY ESPARZA MARTINEZ, ERNEST ESPARSA A/K/A ERNESTO REYES RANGEL, FELIX RANGEL A/K/A NICHOLAS RANGEL, JR., CITY OF AUSTIN (IN REM ONLY), AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE, AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY AND TRAVIS COUNTY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT (IN REM ONLY), LEIF JOHNSON FORD, INC. (IN REM ONLY), FAIRLAND CREDIT, LLC (IN REM ONLY), and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (IN REM ONLY) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$12,167.91** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 2, 2009.

I, on the 18th day of December, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of February, 2010 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 8, Block 5, Industrial Addition (Olt. 10, Div. O), Plat No. 409/553 as described in Volume 815, Page 565, Probate Cause No. 32,373 and 2002103722 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$12,167.91** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 21st day of December, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-502844

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 126th District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of December, 2009 in a certain cause numbered GV-502844, wherein AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE, AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY AND TRAVIS COUNTY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT are plaintiffs, and Jose C. Hernandez a/k/a Joe Cruz Hernandez, Victoria Cruz Garcia, Lucy Mercado Pedro C. Hernandez a/k/a Pedro Cruz Hernandez, Guadalupe Hernandez Cantu, Alejandro C. Hernandez, Joe Angel Hernandez, Manuel John Hernandez, George Anthony Hernandez, Manuel C. Hernandez, III, Jessica P. Hernandez a/k/a Maria Jessica Chavez, City of Austin, (In rem only) United States of America (In rem only), Mitchell International, Inc. (In rem only), Austin Community College, Manor Independent School District, Austin Independent School District, Travis County Hospital District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 11, Travis County and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 4 (In rem only), Conn Credit Corporation, Inc. f/k/a Conn CC, L.P. d/b/a Conn Credit Company (In rem only), Mary Ellen Rangel (In rem only) , Palisades Collection, LLC Assignee of AT&T (In rem only), Unifund CCR Partners (In rem only), State of Texas/Bond Forfeiture Section (In rem only), Cynthia Ann Canales (In rem only) and Sysco Food Services of Dallas, Inc (In rem only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **$17,562.88** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 126th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 2, 2009.

I, on the 18th day of December, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of February, 2010 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 22, Block 3, Chernosky Subdivision No. 16, Plat No. 5/97 as described in Volume 10403, Page 154 and document numbers 1999118141, 1999118142, 1999113801 and 1999113802 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **$17,562.88** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 21st day of December, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANT-

AV0121 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDING AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY.

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

JANUARY 21, 2010 @ 9:30 AM @ AUSTIN POLICE DEPT., 4308 TERRY-O LANE, AUSTIN, TX 78745

095071248	1989	BUIC	4DR	X01SBJ	TX	1G4CX54C7K1632139
095071260	1990	TOYT	LL	B81BXB	TX	JT3VN29V6L0003611
095071324	1991	FORD	PK	1RPN22	TX	1FTHX25H9MKB26490
095071325	1989	PONT	4DR	940FMJ	TX	1G2AJ51W7K6218071
095072145	1997	SUBA	4DR	480RNR	TX	JF1GF4856VH805665
095072147	1993	DODG	LL	37ZKD4	TX	3B4GM07Y1PM175506
095072375	1992	TOYT	VN	K63RYJ	TX	JT3AC11R7N1020590
095072377	1992	CHEV	LL	W31MLF	TX	1GNCS13W0N2223218
095072378	1985	DODG	VN	631BTJ	TX	2B6HB23T5FK265801
095072598	2000	NISS	4DR	TNP086	TX	JN1CA31D0YT758494

car talk

by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

CAN KIDS REALLY WEAR OUT POWER-WINDOW SWITCHES?

Dear Tom and Ray:

When I was a kid, my siblings and I loved to play with the power windows – up a little, down a little, up some more, down some more, all the way up. Our elders always told us to cut it out because we'd wear out the switches. Now that I have kids of my own who love to do the same thing, I find it annoying, so I tell them to cut it out because they'll wear out the switches. But it makes me wonder – can you really wear out power-window switches, or were my elders fibbing just the way I am? – John

RAY: I don't think I'd worry too much about the switches, John.

TOM: No. Switches are cheap. It's the broken power-window motors and regulators that'll have you cursing the little rug rats.

RAY: All of those parts – the switches, the motors, and the window regulators (the mechanical pieces that actually move the glass up and down) – have thousands of cycles in them. But not an infinite number.

TOM: So, let's say you have two kids, and we'll assume the little tykes are confined to the backseat. On a three-hour trip to Grandma's, let's say each kid works one rear window – up and down, up and down, continuously. That's about 2,000 cycles right there. Or 4,000 round-trip, if the kids aren't sleeping off candy comas after visiting Grandma.

RAY: If you make that trip once a year, within three years or so, you're going to need two window motors. And, depending on the car (sometimes you have to buy the regulator and the motor as one unit), they can cost anywhere between $200 and $500 per window!

TOM: So, you have two reasonable choices, John. One is to invent a coin-operated power-window mechanism. For a nickel or a dime, your kids will be able to raise or lower the window once, while contributing to their eventual repair.

RAY: Or you could simply limit the kids' playtime with the windows. You don't want to ruin all their fun, so give them a couple of minutes to play, and then when you start to smell smoke, tell them time's up and deactivate their window switches (which you can do from the driver's control panel). Then, hopefully, they'll turn their destructive instincts to something less expensive, like opening and closing the ashtrays until their doors fall off.

* * *

Don't get stuck with a lemon. Be an informed shopper. Read Tom and Ray's guide "How to Buy a Great Used Car: Secrets Only Your Mechanic Knows." Send $4.75 (check or money order) to Used Car, PO Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

* * *

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk website, **www.cartalk.com**.

Tune in to *Car Talk* each Saturday at 9am on

kut 90.5 AUSTIN TEXAS

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continued

legal notices

ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

CONSTABLE'S SALE Under and by virtue of a Writ of Execution issued on the 17th day of September, 2009 in Cause Number 015218 by the Travis County Justice Court Precinct Three in favor of QSI Auto Sales, Plaintiffs, recovered a judgment against: Guillermo Espinoza, Defendant(s);
THREE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY-EIGHT AND 20/100 DOLLARS ($3,438.20) Together with the sum of THREE HUNDRED AND SEVEN AND 01/100 DOLLARS IN COURT Cost(s) as taxed on said Writ of Execution, and the further cost of executing the same, I have levied on the 28 day of DECEMBER, 2009 and will offer for sale and sell on the 2nd day of February, 2010 same being the 2nd day of February, 2010 at the steps of the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, of Travis County, in the City of Austin, Texas, between the hours of Ten O'Clock A.M. and Four O'Clock P.M. and any and all right, title, interest and claim which the said Defendant(s) Guillermo Espinoza had of, in or to the following described Real Property situated in Travis County, Texas viz:
LOT 11 BLOCK E SUNRIDGE PARK SECTION 1 A/K/A 3002 SUNRIDGE DR, AUSTIN, TX 78741
REAL PROPERTY RECORDED AS DOCUMENT 291549 The above sale to be made by me is to satisfy the above described judgment, together with the costs of said Writ of Execution, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.
RICHARD McCAIN, Constable Precinct Three, Travis County, Texas
By Deputy: /s/ Charles Stone, Senior Deputy
NOTE: On the property sold there are no warranties, expressed or implied, including but not limited to the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. You have bought the property "AS IS". Buyers are further advised that the purchase of the property at the Constable's Sale may not extinguish any liens or security interest on or in the property described. You have simply purchased whatever interest the Defendant(s) had in the property. If you have any questions, you should consult legal counsel.
The purchase will be required to produce an unexpired written statement from the Travis County Tax-Assessor Collector that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed to the county, school district or municipality, respectively.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF LYON COUNTY, KANSAS

JUVENILE DIVISION IN THE INTEREST OF: Kaitlin N

Trively, Minor Child

Case No. 2008-JC-000010

DOB: 2007, A Female Under the Age of 18 Years

NOTICE OF HEARING

TO: Marvin, Trively, 4607 Doss Rd, Austin, TX 78734 or any Known or Unknown Relative of Kaitlin N Trively

A Motion to Terminate Parental Rights has been filed in this court requesting that the court terminate parental rights.

You are required to appear before this court on January 21, 2010, at 4:00 pm, or prior to that time and file your written response to the pleading with the clerk of this court. If, after a child has been adjudged to be a child in need of care, the court finds a parent or parents to be unfit, the court may make an order permanently terminating the parent's or parents' parental rights.

W Irving Shaw, an attorney, has been appointed as GAL for the child. Each parent or other legal custodian of the child has the right to appear and be heard personally either with or without an attorney. The court will appoint an attorney for a parent who is financially unable to hire one.

Dated: January 5, 2010.

/s/ R. Christine Brammer

Clerk of the District Court

INVITATION TO BID NOTICE
The City of Sunset Valley is ACCEPTING SEALED BIDS until 3:00 P.M. January 27, 2010, (Submission deadline) for the abatement and demolition of structures on 2 Lone Oak and 37 Lone Oak. This invitation to bid is a rebid that follows a complete environmental study of the properties. The bids will be publicly opened and read on January 27, 2010 at 3:30 P.M. at Sunset Valley City Hall, 3205 Jones Road, Sunset Valley. Specifications for submitting for this bid are at City Hall beginning January 11, 2010. Questions contact: Public Works Department at (512) 891-9103. All bids must be sealed and marked "ITB No. AB12710 -2 and 37 Lone Oak" and mailed or hand delivered to the City of Sunset Valley, Attention: City Secretary, 3205 Jones Road, Sunset Valley, Texas 78745. The City of Sunset Valley reserves the right to reject any and all bids. Bids received after the submission deadline will not be accepted.

NOTICE of PUBLIC SALE to be held at Aus-Tex Towing at 201 E. Braker Lane, Austin, TX, 78753 on 01/11/10 at 9AM.

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES PURSUANT OF TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED WITHIN 30 DAYS.

GARAGE KEEPER: SOUTHSIDE WRECKER, 8200 S CONGRESS, AUSTIN, TX. 78745.

FLATBED LARGE TRAILER NO LP # AND NO VIN #

1997 CHEVY PK
2GCEC19R6V1117467

NOTICE OF LIEN SALE
In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at the Uncle Bob's Self Storage locations listed below; And, due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the below stated locations(s) to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of on the following dates. No one under 16 allowed. Cash Only.

Uncle Bob's #285
9717 U.S. HWY 290 E
Austin, TX 78724
(512) 278-1220
Tuesday, 1-19-2010 @ 9:00AM

224 LaQuette Newsome: furniture, boxes

306 Lashaunda Price: household goods, furniture, TV's or stereo equip

501 Doug Elliott: furniture, boxes, appliances, office equip

514 Jose Munoz: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, appliances, TV's or stereo equip

831 Rosalinda Cervantes: household goods, furniture

832 Shiela Gipson: household goods, furniture, boxes, TV's or stereo equip

2211 Deonka Ruffin: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip

2243 Shymere Manson: furniture, other: sofa

2255 Lashauna Hicks: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip

Uncle Bob's #231
8227 North Lamar
Austin, TX 78753
(512) 833-0855
Tuesday, 1-19-2010 @ 9:30AM

517 Ana Rodriguez: hshld gds, furn, boxes, tools

704 Romon Smith: hshld gds, boxes, tools, accounting rcrds

717 Diana Garcia: hshld gds, furn, boxes, TV/stereo equip

758 Howard Ray Kirby III: hshld gds, boxes

912 Boyce Keaundrea: hshld gds, furn, boxes, appliances, TV/stereo equip

948 Amanda Segura: furn, boxes

1411 Tom Holdridge: hshld gds, furn, boxes, appliances, TV/stereo equip

1620 Rob Dechant: hshld gds, furn, boxes, sporting gds, tools, off furn, construction materials

Uncle Bob's #276
2830 South A.W. Grimes Blvd
Round Rock, TX 78664
(512) 310-0279
Tuesday, 1-19-2010 @ 10:00AM

114 Marcus Cardinali: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, tools, TV's or stereo equip, office machines

2129 Tomie Gloria: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip

2210 Kasie Thompson: household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, appliances, office furniture

2408 Chris Guerrero: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip, landscaping equip, account records

4120 Lori Carlin: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances

4130 Victor Truan, Jr.: couch(s), refrigerator, automotive tools, furniture, boxes

4219 Jennifer Asberry: furniture, boxes, tools, applianes, TV's or stereo equip

4406 Jeremy Buyce: household goods, furniture, boxes, TV's or stereo equip

5214 Thomas Tessmer: household goods, furniture, boxes, tools, TV's or stereo equip

5426 Daniel Garza: household goods, furniture, boxes, TV's or stereo equip

7115 Richard Phillips: household goods, furniture, boxes, TV's or stereo equip

7202 Erin Rollins: household goods, furniture, boxes, appliances, TV's or stereo equip

7306 Wilbur Abramson, Jr.: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, tools, TV's or stereo equip, office equip

8111 Wesley Andrade: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, TV's or stereo equip

8130 Teresa Olivarez: boxes, office furniture, teacher supplies

8227 Miguel Zarco: household goods, furniture, boxes, tools

8232 Leonard Westra: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, tools, TV's or stereo equip

9430 William Hulings; boxes

9513 Samantha Aleman: household goods, boxes, TV's or stereo equip

9655 Joel Contreras: household goods, furniture, appliances, TV's or stereo equip

9664 Ruben Trevino, Jr.: household goods, furniture, boxes, sporting goods, tools, appliances, TV's or stereo equip, landscaping equip

Uncle Bob's #197
5547 McNeil Dr.
Austin, TX 78729
(512) 336-8390
Tuesday, 1-19-2010 @ 9:00 a.m.

430 Isiah Tisdale: hshld gds, furn, boxes, sporting gds, tools, TV/stereo equip

1118 Judy Zapp: furn

1304 Nicole Mosher: hshld gds, furn, boxes, construction equip

1312 Judy Zapp: hshld gds, furn, boxes, sporting gds, tools, TV/stereo equip, off equip

1722 Rebecca Batchelor: hshld gds, furn, boxes, TV/stereo equip

1749 Donald Withrow: hshld gds, furn, boxes, sporting gds, tools, appliances, TV/stereo equip, accounting records

Uncle Bob's #287
6509 South First Street
Austin, TX 78745
(512) 326-9696
Tuesday, 1-19-2010 @ 9AM

270 Joe Reese: hshld gds, furn, boxes

317 Rachel Ortiz: hshld gds, furn

382 Gabriel Loera: hshld gds, furn, boxes, sporting gds, tools, appliances, TV/stereo equip

2207 Christina Smith: hshld gds, furn, boxes

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY
STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF TRAVIS

CAUSE: D-1-GN-09-001633
By virtue of an FIRST ORDER OF SALE issued by the District Court of the 250th Judicial District Court of TRAVIS County, Texas, November 23, 2009, in cause numbered D-1-GN-09-001633, styled GREEN SLOPES HOME OWNER'S ASSOCIATION, INC. versus JAVIER BATISTA HERNANDEZ AND LILLIAN CLAVELO GONZALEZ, on a judgment rendered against JAVIER BATISTA HERNANDEZ AND LILLIAN CLAVELO GONZALEZ; I did on DECEMBER 8, 2009 AT 9:00 AM, levy upon as the property of JAVIER BATISTA HERNANDEZ AND LILLIAN CLAVELO GONZALEZ the following described real property; TO WIT:

LOT 3, BLOCK E, GREEN-SLOPES, PHASE 1, A SUBDIVISION IN TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT RECORDED IN VOLUME 70, PAGE 27 OF THE PLAT RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS ("THE PROPERTY") Commonly known as: 4805 Yucca Hill Dr.; Austin, Travis County, Texas 78744-5711

On FEBRUARY 2, 2010, being the first Tuesday of the month, between the hours of 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM, beginning at 10:00 AM, at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas, I will sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the right, title and interest of JAVIER BATISTA HERNANDEZ AND LILLIAN CLAVELO GONZALEZ in and to the above described real property.

Dated at Austin, Travis County, Texas, December 29, 2009.

Maria L. Canchola

Constable, Precinct 4

Travis County, Texas

By /s/ LEONARD JARED, Deputy

Notice to Bidders: You are buying whatever interest, if any, the Debtor has in the property. Purchase of the Debtor's interest in the property may not extinguish any liens or security interests held by other persons. There are no warranties, express or implied, regarding the property being sold, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.

Bidders shall present an unexpired written statement issued to the person in the manner prescribed by Section 34.015, Tax Code.

Notice to Judgment Debtor: If there is any property, real or personal, you want to point out for levy in lieu of the above described property, you must contact this office immediately.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST
THE ESTATE OF ROBIN RATLIFF SHIVERS, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001628, styled Estate of Robin Ratliff Shivers, Deceased, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on December 30, 2009, to Robert Allan Shivers, Jr.

Claims may be presented and addressed to the personal representative of the estate in care of his attorneys at the following address:

c/o GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY

a Professional Corporation

Attn: James A. Williams

P.O. Box 98

401 Congress, Suite 2200

Austin, Texas 78767-0098

All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 31st day of December, 2009.

GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY,

A Professional Corporation

P.O. Box 98

401 Congress, Suite 2200

Austin, Texas 78767-0098

512.480.5622 Telephone

512.480.5822 Fax

By: /s/ James A. Williams

State Bar ID No.: 21547000

ATTORNEYS FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST
THE ESTATE OF PAULINE G. BROWN, DECEASED
OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT CO-EXECUTORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of PAULINE G. BROWN were issued on the 22nd day of December, 2009, in Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001330 pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to: MARGARET KEYS AND RUTHANN BROWN

INDEPENDENT CO-EXECUTORS.

The residence of such Co-Executors is Austin, Texas. The address is c/o Malcolm Greenstein, Greenstein & Kolker, 1006 E. Cesar Chavez Street, Austin, Texas, 78702.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this 5th day of January, 2010.

GREENSTEIN & KOLKER

1006 E. Cesar Chavez Street

Austin, Texas 78702

(512) 472-6270

(512) 472-8263 (FAX)

Malcolm Greenstein

Attorneys for Independent Co-Executors

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Ernest James Peck, Jr., Deceased, were issued on January 5, 2010, in Cause No. 09-0601-CP4, pending in the County Court at Law No. 4 of Williamson County, Texas, to: John Walter Peck.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: John A. Crane

Attorney at Law

700 Lavaca, Suite 1010

Austin, Texas 78701

DATED the 5th day of January, 2010.

John A. Crane

State Bar No.: 05006490

700 Lavaca, Suite 1010

Austin, Texas 78701

Telephone: (512) 469-9444

Facsimile: (512) 469-9060

Attorney for John Walter Peck

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of MARILYN LOUISE SEGNER, Deceased, were issued on December 29, 2009, in Cause No. C-1-PB-001646, pending in the County Court of Travis County, Texas, In Matters of Probate, to JERALD LYNN SEGNER. Claims may be presented to JERALD LYNN SEGNER as follows:

Estate of MARILYN LOUISE SEGNER, Deceased

JERALD LYNN SEGNER, Independent Executor

c/o Carroll J. Bryla

105 West San Antonio Street

Fredericksburg, Texas 78624

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated this 30th day of December, 2009.

BRYLA & SCHOESSOW

By /s/ CARROLL J. BRYLA

Attorney for the Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of EDITH

WILLIE (CARROLL) TOMBRELLO, Deceased, were issued on December 15, 2009, in Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001640, pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, to: THOMAS ANTHONY TOMBRELLO, JR.

The residence of the Executor is in Los Angeles County, California; his in state Agent is Kirt H. Keister whose address is:

Kiester, Lockwood & Ciccone, L.L.P.

611 West 14th St., Suite 100

Austin, Texas 78701

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 29th day of December, 2009.

KIESTER, LOCKWOOD & CICCONE, L.L.P.

By /s/ Kirt H. Kiester

State Bar No. 11393000

ATTORNEYS FOR THE ESTATE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of GERALDINE ANDERSON MICHALSKI, Deceased, were issued on December 17, 2009, in Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001562, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: DUANE LEWIS RHODES.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: FRANCES H. BENNETT

BENNETT FLAHERTY, PLLC

3307 Northland Drive,

Suite 470

Austin, Texas 78731

DATED the 4th day of January, 2010.

BENNETT FLAHERTY, PLLC

3307 Northland Drive,

Suite 470

Austin, Texas 78731

(512) 407-8888 (Telephone)

(512) 407-8588 (Telecopier)

By /s/ Frances H. Bennett

State Bar No. 00783634

Shelly C. Fristoe

State Bar No. 07480800

ATTORNEYS FOR DUANE LEWIS RHODES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Administration for the Estate of Gustavo Jorge Cordova, Deceased, were issued on December 17, 2009, under

Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001382, pending in the Probate Court Number One, Travis County, Texas, to Shane Hainzinger Cordova. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:

Representative,

Estate of Gustavo Jorge Cordova, Deceased

c/o Gary L. Mann

Attorney at Law

5905 Rickerhill Lane

Austin, TX 78739

All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and manner prescribed by law.

Dated January 4, 2010.

/s/ Gary L. Mann

Gary L. Mann

Attorney for Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Helen Sandoval Lopez, Deceased were issued on the 28th day of September, 2009, in Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001304, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Mary Helen Lopez.

Claims may be presented in care of the Independent Executor of the Estate as follows:

c/o Steven P. Boney

Estate of Helen Sandoval

Lopez, Deceased

1122 Colorado St., Ste 2320

Austin, TX 78701

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and the manner prescribed by the law.

DATED the 29thday of December, 2009.

By: /s/ Steven P. Boney

Attorney for Independent Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS of the Estate of Catherine Williams, a/k/a Sarah Catherine Powell Williams, Deceased. Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of CATHERINE WILLIAMS, a/k/a SARAH CATHERINE POWELL WILLIAMS, Deceased, were issued on December 21, 2009, in Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001637, pending in the Probate Court Number One (1) of Travis County, Texas, to Lucy Catherine Williams Joyce, Independent Executor.

The address of the attorney for the Independent Executor is:

Roy O. Smithers

LAW OFFICE OF ROY O. SMITHERS, P.C.

3900 Manchaca

Austin, Texas 78704

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to Roy O. Smithers, Attorney for the Independent Executor, within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED the 22nd day of December, 2009.

LAW OFFICE OF ROY O. SMITHERS, P.C.

By: /s/ Roy O. Smithers,

Attorney for Independent Executor

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO PROPOSERS

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1.Identity and Access Management Solution, RFP P100003-GM

Opens: February 1, 2010 @ 2:00 p.m.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 20, 2010 @ 10:00 A.M.

Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Payment Bond and a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for **the Re-roof of Designated Areas at the Gardner Betts Juvenile Justice Center (IFB No. B100078-JT),** a project consisting primarily of a re-roofing project in Travis County, will be received electronically through www.bidsync.com. Bids will be accepted **until 2:00 P. M. CST, January 28, 2010,** then publicly opened and read aloud. Travis County will also accept paper bids received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, marked "Sealed Bid (Re-roof of Designated Areas at the Gardner Betts Juvenile Justice Center, IFB No. B100078-JT)" at the Travis County Purchasing Office, 314 West 11th Street, 4th Floor, Suite 400, Austin, TX 78701. Note: The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office will serve as the OFFICIAL CLOCK for the purpose of verifying the date and time of receipt of paper bids.

You may print the Plans and Specifications from www.bidsync.com or they can be obtained in the Travis County Purchasing Office. Hard copies (printed) of Plans and Specifications may be obtained from the Travis County Purchasing Office for a refundable deposit of $100.00 in the form of a cashier's check, money order, or company check payable to "Travis County." The deposit will be refunded if the drawings and specifications are returned in good condition within 21 calendar days of the bid opening. In addition, Plans and Specifications will be made available for viewing free of charge at various Austin-area Plan Rooms listed below.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 14, 2010 AT 11:00 A.M., C.S.T. at the Gardner Betts Juvenile Justice Center, 2515 S. Congress Avenue, ISC Administrative Services Conference Room, Austin, Texas 78704.

A bid security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount will be required. **IF A COPY OF THE BID SECURITY IS SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH WWW.BIDSYNC.COM, AN ORIGINAL AND ONE COPY WILL BE DUE (BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS) ONE BUSINESS DAY AFTER THE BID OPENING DATE.** Payments will be made for completed work in progressive payments with the County retaining five percent (5%) of each payment until final acceptance of the project. Payments will be made by check. A Payment Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds $25,000. A Performance Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds $100,000. Bidders should use lump sum pricing and provide all requested unit prices .

IF THE CONTRACTOR FAILS TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT IN THE WORKING DAYS SPECIFIED, LIQUIDATED DAMAGES OF $550.00 PER DAY OF DELAY WILL BE ASSESSED.

Historically Underutilized Businesses including Contractors, Subcontractors, and Suppliers are encouraged to participate in this project consistent with the goals of the Travis County Commissioners Court. Contractors will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations, all Federal, State, and local regulations for construction safety and health standards.

The successful bidder must commence work upon issuance by County of a written Notice to Proceed. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn for ninety (90) calendar days after the date on which they are opened.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1.Traffic Paint, B100080-NB

Opens: January 25, 2010 @ 3:00 p.m.

Bids should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Specifications can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Bidders should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payments may be made by check. The successful bidder shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO PROPOSERS

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1.Interactive Voice Response System for District Clerk, Jury Office, RFP P100004-LC

Opens: January 25, 2010 @ 2:00 p.m.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 13, 2010 @ 10:00 A.M.

Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Payment Bond and a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the **INSTALLATION OF A TOUCH SCREEN SECURITY SYSTEM FOR TCCC BUILDING 2 (140) AND 3 (160) (IFB No. B100088DG),** will be received electronically through www.bidsync.com and/or hardcopy. Bids will be accepted **until 2:00 P. M. CST, JANUARY 19, 2010,** then publicly opened and read aloud. Travis County will also accept paper bids received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, marked "Sealed Bid (PROJECT NAME, IFB No. B100088DG)" at the Travis County Purchasing Office, 314 West 11th Street, 4th Floor, Suite 400, Austin, TX 78701. Note: The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office will serve as the OFFICIAL CLOCK for the purpose of verifying the date and time of receipt of paper bids.

You may print the Plans and Specifications from www.bidsync.com or they can be obtained in the Travis County Purchasing Office. Hard copies (printed) of Plans and Specifications may be obtained from the Travis County Purchasing Office for a refundable deposit of $100.00 in the form of a cashier's check, money order, or company check payable to "Travis County." The deposit will be refunded if the drawings and specifications are returned in good condition within 21 calendar days of the bid opening. In addition, Plans and Specifications will be made available for viewing free of charge at various Austin-area Plan Rooms listed below.

A bid security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount will be required. **IF A COPY OF THE BID SECURITY IS SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH WWW.BIDSYNC.COM, AN ORIGINAL AND ONE COPY WILL BE DUE (BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS) ONE BUSINESS DAY AFTER THE BID OPENING DATE.** Payments will be made for completed work in progressive payments with the County retaining five percent (5%) of each payment until final acceptance of the project. Payments will be made by check. A Payment Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds $25,000. A Performance Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds $100,000. Bidders should use lump sum pricing.

IF THE CONTRACTOR FAILS TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT IN THE WORKING DAYS SPECIFIED, LIQUIDATED DAMAGES OF $450.00 PER DAY OF DELAY WILL BE ASSESSED.

Historically Underutilized Businesses including Contractors, Subcontractors, and Suppliers are encouraged to participate in this project consistent with the goals of the Travis County Commissioners Court. Contractors will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations, all Federal, State, and local regulations for construction safety and health standards.

The successful bidder must commence work upon issuance by County of a written Notice to Proceed. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn for ninety (90) calendar days after the date on which they are opened.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems will conduct an accreditation site visit of:

TravisCountySTAR Flight on February 8 and 9, 2010

The purpose of the site visit will be to evaluate the program's compliance with nationally established medical transport standards. The site visit results will be used to determine whether, and the conditions under which accreditation should be awarded to the program.

CAMTS accreditation standards deal with issues of patient care and safety of the transport environment. Anyone believing that he or she has pertinent or valid information about such matters may request a public information interview with the CAMTS site surveyors at the time of the site visit. Information presented at the interview will be carefully evaluated for relevance to the accreditation process. Requests for public information interviews must be made in writing and sent to CAMTS no later than 5 business days before the site survey begins. The request should also indicate the nature of the information to be provided during the interview. Such request should be addressed to:

Office of the Executive Director

Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems

PO Box 130

Anderson, SC 29677

The Commission will acknowledge such written requests in writing or by telephone and will inform the program of the request for an interview. The program will, in turn, notify the interviewee of the date, time and place of the meeting.

This notice is posted in accordance with the CAMTS requirements and may not be removed until the site visit is completed.

January 8, 2010

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1998 Lexus SC300 coupe. Wow, what a car. Just a gorgeous classic. $6,950. 1998 Camry, 4dr., LE, brand new engine rebuild, with new timing belt, oil pump, all bearings, seals, rings etc etc. Clean, 130k mileage car, with one year warranty.

2002 Nissan Xterra, loaded with leather, really clean with ONLY 20,000 miles! Can trade...Warranty? Of course. $9,950.

2004 XA Matrix, 4 door, 70K miles. Can trade. Warranty. Auto AT, $6950

1999 Toyota 4Runner, SR5, 135K, really, really clean. Full warranty. Can trade. $5,950.

1999 Civic EX 2 door Coupe, 5 speed, AC, clean, warranty, $3,650.

2003 CRV, some minor hail dents, clean, clean car, can trade, $9,500.

motor music

cars

1995 MERCEDES SL-320 Two seater roadster, in process of complete, professional paint job. This car will be a '10' and we can take your car in a trade. $10,950. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail. 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2000 COROLLA 4dr, only 77k. Minor hail dents. New motor. Warranty. $4500. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2000 LEXUS RX-300, had a minor ding at right rear quarter. Ready now. Stunning with 103k miles. Can trade and warranty. $8500. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2001 MERCEDES SLK-230, red, nice, can trade, warranty. $7950. Auto Depot 9009 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2002 CIVIC four-door, auto 92k, one year warranty. Clean, nice, $6550. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2003 TACOMA 4dr, Crew cab, auto, 82,000 miles, light hail. Clean, warranty, $10,550. Auto Depot 9009 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2005 NISSAN "Nissmo" 4WD Xtra cab pickup. 53k miles. Can trade, nice. $13,950. Full warranty. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2008 HONDA FIT 2800 miles (Yes, 2800 miles!) Auto, full factory warranty. Can trade. $14,950. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

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9433 Parkfield Dr, 78758

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836-7661

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TASTES LIKE CANDY
Still haven't found what I am looking for. **tasteslikecandy**, 46, 📷, **#132022**

WET AND HORNY
looking for dominate much much oloder male 50 plus for discreet en counters. Loved to be spanked and teased. **hotneasy**, 24, **#131716**

SENSUAL KISSER LOVER
I am a 37 year old woman who wants nothing more than to spend time with someone that I can call on when I want it! I am pretty simple... **boytoywanter**, 37, 📷, **#131255**

ORGASM?
I have many fantasies. I want you to teach me and tell me how.23 years old, 5'4", 110 lbs, very cute and willing. **LittleLady**, 24, **#131233**

SUBMISSIVE SEEKS MASTER
I'm 26 years old and love being a submissive to a knowledgeable Dominant male. I am untrained but have enough brains to know how to respect my Dom/Master. **kinkykendra69**, 26, 📷, **#131116**

DOMME SEEKS SUB
For consideration you must include a face pic. Replies with NO pic or DICK pics will be DELETED. To get MY attention you must also say MORE than ONE-LINE,. **MistressZann**, 50, ☎, 📷, **#130836**

ELMO LOVER
I'm a girl who just wants a lot of fun and wild things into my life. **lovablelibra12**, 20, 📷, **#130651**

SENSUAL IRISH EYES
I am a very sensual, uninhibited, hedonistic woman!I love sex.I love men,singly and plurally.I write erotica, and I'm damn good at it! Meeting people and learning new things;I'm an adventurous free spirit. **irisheyes417**, 52, 📷, **#130532**

SUB, SHY, SWEET.
I'm witty, charming, and shy, and Gemini. I love learning and having fun. I am looking for a dominant, clever, and affectionate man to befriend and maybe more. **Willow1113**, 18, 📷, **#129849**

SASSY NEEDING DOMINATION
Very busy and lacking release outside of daily life. Looking for someone not afraid to dominate and open to public role playing. I have a spanking fetish that needs satisfying. **burlyqgirl**, 25, **#128939**

IT'S PLAYTIME BOYS
I'm looking for a man that's sweet and caring but i get bored easily so he needs to be full of surprises so that i never get bored. **austinpartygurl1985**, 24, 📷, **#119045**

PLAY WITH US
Married Couple looking for women 41(her) 44(him). We are hwp, attractive, ddf,drama free. We like to watch and be watched. Seeking woman to share erotic adventures. Age 25-50 HWP Caucasion,Latin. **seekingfun1**, 45, 📷, **#132126**

LETS ENJOY PARADISE
The only part incomplete is you.(a loving and commited bisexual woman) My love has been longing for that special woman to join us in our piece of Texas paradise. **paradisefound**, 38, ☎, 📷, **#132031**

COUPLESEEKTHREESOME
Open minded couple seeking a female for threesome. First time tried anything like this but open to new experiances. No strings attached, descrete one time thing. **3sCompany**, 22, ☎, 📷, **#132020**

CUTIE = 3
We are looking for a cutie to come play for some laughs and naughtiness. we are attractive, very easy going and really know how to have a good time! **MrDestructo_and_CatastropheGirl**, 29, 📷, **#132001**

NO CLOTHES NECESSARY
Itís not that hard. Weíll either want to have sex with you or not. Turning down someone and being turned down by someone is not that big of deal. **Velo_sexy**, 30, 📷, **#131915**

WELCOME TO PARADISE
Your happiness lives in the country and we're looking for a single bisexual woman that would like to join us in Paradise. Your dreams for joy are patiently here waiting. **cplnparadise**, 37, 📷, **#131827**

STRIP POKER!
We are looking for a fun women to hang out with and see what fun we can get into. We want to start slow and break the ice. first time. **mtaustin30**, 29, 📷, **#131684**

SEXY BLACK COUPLE
Sexy black couple looking for a woman to please us both. Almost anything goes. Just want to have a whole lots of fun!!!!!!! **wnepps**, 24, 📷, **#131382**

DOWNTOWN DREAM COUPLE
Looking 4 sexy, drama-free, anything goes fun with a single lady or couple, specifically no-strings horny sexy fem we can spoil and fuck and possibly even travel with! **sexyloftlovers**, 31, 📷, **#131373**

YOU MAKES THREE
Couple seeking another female for some discreet fun. We're open minded but looking for the right person. Him - 31, fit,dom, and her - 39, average/curvy, sub/vers. **hisnhers**, 33, 📷, **#131257**

OPEN-MINDED, SEXY COUPLE
We are a happily married couple that loves to meet new people and make friends! We always play together and never force chemistry. Feel free to ask any questions. **curiousbikers**, 27, 📷, **#131117**

ADVENTURE SEEKERS
We're an attractive, committed couple interested in meeting similar couples or select singles. We're safe, sane, fun, and drama-free. If you're both bi (or at least curious) that's a plus. **PairofAces**, 29, 📷, **#131110**

AHHHITSYOURFACE!
First off we have been together for 7 years now. So we are very comfortable with what we are trying to do here. **LvLup**, 24, 📷, **#130887**

FEMALE FOR ME
Married Hispanic BiFemale, 34 looking for BiFemale for fun encounters. Let's get together for drinks and see what happens? **femaleforme**, 34, ☎, 📷, **#131835**

A WET TREAT
I am 28,sexy and looking for someone who knows how to use their hands and mouth well. Let's see how juicy I can get!!! **austinkristal**, 28, 📷, **#131787**

HOTTIE SEEKING NAUGHTY
Happy in relationship with boyfriend, just curious for some girl on girl fun.. Have only been with one girl- often daydream about it. **temptress**, 26, 📷, **#131370**

TRA-LA-LA
I'm looking to do some experimenting with a cute and fun chick. **xxxheart**, 24, 📷, **#131103**

GIRL PLAYMATES
Experienced sexy bi hottie looking for other femme hotties to play with. **Catwalk**, 32, 📷, **#119900**

LOOKING FOR GROUP
Looking for transvestite or sexy couple to share a sexy night of passion with. Up for anything and eager for new experiences! **sexykittylover**, 20, **#131664**

PLAYMATE(S) FOR ASIANBEAUTY
AsianBeauty seeks Erotic Play with Woman or Man;couples considered. I'm very open-minded,feel free to suggest your sexual fantasies. Only Inquire if you're STD-Free. **AsianOrchid**, 24, ☎, 📷, **#131487**

SEXY COLLEGE GRAD
Lonely sexpot seeks hot couple to bring fantasy to reality. Want a non-jealous couple to let me enjoy both at the same time. **youngnsexy**, 24, 📷, **#131182**

CURIOUS
bicurious female seeking other bicurious female. Be friendly, clean, attractive, honest. **maryjane88**, 21, **#130521**

YOUNGNTIGHT
looking for a couple to have some fun with...im young sexy and up for just about anything so if u think u can handle me then let me know....ava 18. **bossgurl45**, 19, ☎, 📷, **#129789**

MANPLEASURER
Love men of all types...just want to do whatever makes you moan with joy...! **OverEasy**, 29, 📷, **#131200**

HOTGUY LOOKING FOR
Hispanic Bottom, looking for a discret encounter and a relationship with a Top guy. I am discret Open to new things with guys around my age or youngers.46yrs. **antonio_3638**, 45, 📷, **#118402**

CONTRASTING COLORS
Black Male in the Austin area. Discreet if need be, with an incredible labido. I am oral, endowed and always ready for fun. Open to single women, couples, multiple women. **chocolatefun**, 44, 📷, **#117982**

LOOKING FOR FUN
Looking for no strings fun and wanting to explore. Am a little bi-curious. **Tgun**, 38, 📷, **#131470**

READY TO PLAY
I ready to do some exploration but not alone. Who wants to play? **Stiff_Breez**, 37, 📷, **#131318**

BOTTOMSUP
No STD's, Bi-Shaved male/Cross-dresser/Bottom, I am fun and love to be with others that will not judge me for what I like. I am willing to try anything once. **BottomsUp**, 29, ☎, 📷, **#131298**

HI ALL MEN
Im looking for a man who would love tpo have a crossdresser for dinner and desert. **roxytail23**, 32, 📷, **#132238**

BLONDE T-GIRL TOP
Hot Blonde T-girl likes to "Dance and Prance". Seeking Hot "Athletic Model" type boys to work the Floor with. I like Muscles or lean. You will like All of me. **BlondeHottie**, 35, ☎, 📷, **#101055**

GIVING, EAGER, OPEN-MINDED
I'm a recently separated man eager for some casual action and a fun, friendly time. I hear I'm a great lover. I'm into giving you the best time I can. **philo**, 33, 📷, **#132215**

NEW TO AUSTIN
I'm looking for someone fun to hang out with and to play with. I'm particularly into foot worship including nylons, barefeet, stockings, etc., and want someone who shares similar interests. **elque**, 33, 📷, **#132206**

LAIDBACK AND HORNY
I'm looking for a woman or couple for discreet encounters dating and a whole lot of good times. If you are interested, let me know. **Captain-Kinko**, 37, 📷, **#132205**

LATINO IN AUSTIN
Hi everyone, I'm a clean, healthy, in shape, latino male in Austin. I'm 5'8", 160lbs, short black hair, brown eyes,laid back, and looking for friends in the Austin area. **markaustin**, 34, 📷, **#114857**

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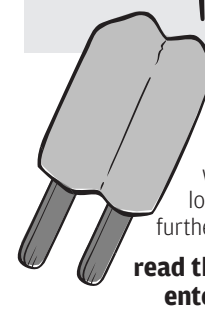
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Flavor of the Week



nicecouple27 Age: 27
couple looking for a third

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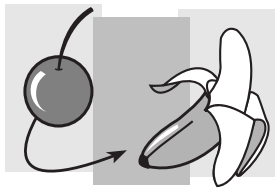
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Austin is a pretty cool town. Thankfully, it's not too cool for football. Austinites will dork out for a Longhorn game every bit as much as they will for a Buttnumbathon, a Makers Faire, or an Eeyore's. Admittedly, Longhorn fans are by far a scarier brand of dork than you will find at most other Austin events. Not only are they usually amped up on adrenaline and testosterone, they're often holding back some serious pent-up rage, mainly the residual effect of watching four hours of Greg Davis' offensive coordinating. Dear, sweet, merciful Jesus, for once could you please tell Mr. Davis to just let the big dogs eat? This three-yards-and-a-cloud-of-dust shit may be taking its toll on the opposing defense, but it's even more exhausting for the fans. Who knows how many aneurysms, broken TV screens, and cases of domestic violence were the result of the 2009 Big 12 Championship game? Sure, the final one second was exciting, but the rest of it was like spending an afternoon at the Department of Motor Vehicles. At least Nebraska fans got the vicarious thrill of watching Ndamukong Suh toss the Texas offensive line around like a bunch of rag dolls. The only thing missing was the eponymous Johnny Cash song as background music. Don't worry, ABC will surely queue that up at some point in the BCS pregame show.

Still, regardless of all the bitching (or perhaps in spite of it) big Greg's offense put up just enough points to get the Longhorns to the dance once again. Years from now in the historically embellished retelling of the glorious 2009 season, it will be the golden toe of Hunter Lawrence that gets all the glory. And tiny Hunter slew the Goliath Ndamukong with the graceful sweep of his European-soccer-style kick, and the fans burst onto the field and did hoist him upon their shoulders and laud his name. The real story however, took place up in the lonely press box high above the field, where ol' Greg Davis took off his headset, leaned back in his chair, and as is his custom, said a little prayer of thanks to the Lord for letting him feed off the entrails of Will Muschamp's defense once again. So, what does all this have to do with you tapping some strange? Next to nothing. Regardless of how it's portrayed on gay porn sites, football is mostly a sexless endeavor. Those well oiled, accidental, post-steam-bath, locker-room three-ways involving the tight end, punter, and fullback never really happen … unless they actually take place on a porn film set. This is not to say that you can't get as lucky as Hunter Lawrence and the Longhorns at a football game. Au contraire. In Texas, football is as legitimate a foreplay technique as beaver slapping and tonsil hockey and, ultimately, equally successful. Plus, like sex, you don't need to know much about football to enjoy it. You just need to be enthusiastic and get your game face on. If you're one of those few remaining hermits or foreigners who hasn't decided whether football is for you, a good way to test it out is at the Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, where Thursday night it will be shoring the BCS National Championship on the big screen … for free! The theatre should be full of Longhorn fans, but you can reserve a seat by purchasing a $5 food and drink voucher online. With so many people wearing such an ugly shade of orange, you should be able to talk someone out of their clothes. Hey, the Longhorns got lucky. Maybe you can too.

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DON'T LOOK BACK
I live my life so that I have as few regrets as possible.I think before I act, mean what I say and embrace the life I've been given. **motherpoet**, 48, 📷, **#115833**

STRIKING, PROVOCATIVE, CHEEKY
Porcelain skinned educator looking for a welcomed diversion. Any Joe Strummers/Lloyd Dobblers out there? I'm into intelligence, debate,obscure film references, music, and quality humans. **Red-Betty**, 34, ☎, 📷, **#127053**

NEWYORKER
Short latinredhead, with one child, native NewYorker...love romance, movies, reading, cooking and hate writing about myslef. **jusalady**, 53, 📷, **#132221**

CREATIVE INTELLIGENT WOMAN
I am an intelligent, funny, romantic who likes to travel, I love my job and have a good life. I would like to find a gentleman who also loves life. **austinsherry**, 52, 📷, **#132200**

MAUDE SEEKS HAROLD
me: artist/librarian/student/teacher. 34 year old maude seeks similiar-aged/emotionally-available harold/marcel duchamp/bill hicks/beck/andrew bird/vonnegut/ with buddy holly glasses. meet me in montauk. **craftylibrarian**, 34, 📷, **#132186**

INTELLIGENT RED HAIR
Looking for good conversation and close encounters.Drug/Disease free seeking same. 37 yo, needing friendly relationship with single,divorced, widowed non commitment seeking intelligent gentleman. **strawberryddd**, 37, 📷, **#132165**

GOOD GIRL
I am open minded, thoughtful, easy to talk to and have a sarcastic raunchy sense of humor. I am low maintenance but can get all gussied up. **Purplegirl**, 30, 📷, **#132161**

KIND ARTIST GIRL
Kindhearted artist type seeks a person to share life with. I try not to take life too seriously. I have a big heart and want to share it. **Brighteyes**, 25, 📷, **#132055**

OUTGOING, RANDOM, FUN
I really enjoy meeting new people and where they come from. I love the outdoors, good food, and random adventures! **wmartinez**, 25, 📷, **#132009**

ETERNAL STUDENT
I'm a laid back gal who loves to learn about the world whether it be through reading, interacting with others, or traveling. **German_Longhorn**, 21, 📷, **#131999**

I CAN
Animal and nature loving girl,who would like to meet somebody to spend some time with.No Drama,BS and Stress needed.Just be yourself and say what you mean.That's all. **oktoberkiki**, 37, 📷, **#132129**

SWEETGIRL
I enjoy theatre (live and indie), hiking, and picnics. I just love life and having fun, I am very independent, but I would like to spend time with someone special. **justme62**, 47, 📷, **#131846**

OPTIMISTIC AND ATYPICAL
I'm a single mom with a full time job that I love. My favorite things are music and movies (hard rock and just about any good film). **TXgirl2282**, 27, 📷, **#132062**



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DANCING SPINNING MADNESS!
I am constantly spinning staff or dancing.not so good for meeting up cute boys. LEO! I have been totally deprived of snuggles cuddles all winter! it is driving me insane! **RoboLove**, 22, 📷, **#132158**

SEX & CHOCOLATES
I love the outdoors and being anywhere near the water.I like to grill out,camping,travel,up for new adventures with a new lover.Great conversation,guy w great sense of humor,love dogs,sex&lover. **love-life2009**, 44, 📷, **#132136**

FOXY TALENTED CHIC
I like men and enjoy a fun adventure, guys who are sure of themselves, good with fixing things, are compassionate, sexy, and that appreciate a real woman. I am still looking ! **foxychic-2day**, 49, 📷, **#132134**

ANOTHER MULTI-STATE TRANSPLANT.
Loves: music, movies, baking, reading, magazines, making mixes of all the same songs, family, friends, job. Dislikes: organized religion, not having TV, traffic, cleaning the tub, purple, war, liars, fakes. **ladyfriend**, 29, 📷, **#132109**

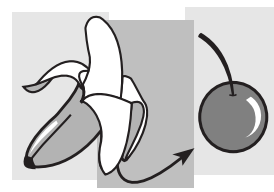
ADVENTUROUS LOVEABLE CUTIE
I love spending all my time outside, photography, music, good movies, art,discovering new places and new people. looking for a guy who's adventurous, spontaneous, and genuine. **em194**, 20, ☎, 📷, **#131959**

TAKE A WALK
I am honest and real, wittily self-effacing and interested in getting outside of my happy little world to explore laughter, wonder and good times with someone on their own path. **truthorconsequences**, 46, 📷, **#131946**

CHRISTIAN WOMEN
I am loving, romantic, friendly, caring, understanding, respectful and Christian women. I'm described as a person that is outgoing with a wonderful personality and I'm always full of life... **txrescuelady**, 35, 📷, **#131935**

HELLO FOR STARTERS
Truth: %100 percent of us are not Neat, inteliigent, funny ..Most of us are Sloppy, insecure, narcissistic. Open up and show all of the characters that are distinctively you. **Dextria**, 24, ☎, 📷, **#131895**

PEACE LOVING CUTIE
I like artistry and ingenuity, daytrips, extended trips, cooking, eating, prefer to be outside not in. Looking for someone healthy, kind and genuine who enjoys life, and simple pleasures shared. **marisol**, 51, 📷, **#131892**



SIMA DAHN NOW!
me: 42yo, professional, 5'9", 190lb, soft and musclee (like a rose petal made of iron) (accounting degree/software engineer), handsome (my mom thinks so) agnostic/atheist.... **bzee**, 42, 📷, **#132094**

ENJOY ME.
I'm looking to meet someone who loves Monty Python and sarcasm. I'm gullible and spontaneous, which isn't always safe, but I usually have a good time with it. **Idlehands77**, 32, 📷, **#132230**

IT'S THE SHOES
Where to start...Almost native Texan... Most of the time that I am not working is spent in motion. If I stop moving I fall alseep. **CaveBear**, 41, 📷, **#132219**

ALWAYS THINKING.
My Interests are Film, Travel, Technology, Politics & Social Change. I like all music, mostly Rock, R&B, Jazz, Pop, some C&W, but No Rap!. Love should be magical and poetic. **Innovator**, 55, 📷, **#132218**

COUNTRY BOY LOOKING
I've lived in the country and the city, but I prefer being in the middle of nowhere. I'm looking to hang out with as just friends or more. **Bret_P**, 37, 📷, **#132207**

AWESOME AUSTIN NEWBY
New to Austin and want someone to experience it with. No chat friends. I feel the best way for two people to discover their similarities is face to face. **danish**, 48, 📷, **#132203**

FUN HUMOROUS LOYAL.
eeyore's birthday fest. bob marley fest.pecan fest.live music. tattoos,crazy and differnt foods,good music like pantera my fav.johnny cash.little reggae.some country.rock overall. my num one rule in life is good morals. **brnd**, 29, 📷, **#132202**

INTELLIGENT,/FUNNY, CARING/CREATIVE, CUTE
Love Music, Film, Art, Books, Herbal Tea, Wine, Cooking, Genealogy, Walking, Personal Growth, Meditation, Laughing, Hiking, Biking, Vegetarian, E, Word games, Ambidextrous physically/emotionally/creatively. I am a joy to be around! **joesmooth1964**, 45, 📷, **#120158**

BACK HOME AFTER..
Hi, it feels weird saying Im new in town because I grew up here. Ive been away since'91.Im interested in meeting all kinds of folk. Im very open minded and... **stgermaine73**, 36, 📷, **#132201**

SINGLE, WHITE, HANDSOME
What's the point? I want something more, the finer things in life can only be enjoyed when you have someone to enjoy them with. **SamIAM0304**, 27, ☎, 📷, **#132192**

THE ONE
Born and raised in Africa. Open Minded, creative and ambitious. New to Austin Looking for someone to enjoy life with. **Africansoul**, 28, 📷, **#132191**

LONGHORN AND GERMAN
Spend a lot of Time in Europe went to School there until I came to UT love fitness Naughty little german boy that is never going to grow up!! **ThomSprechenLonghorn**, 37, 📷, **#132190**

WHY SO SERIOUS?
I'd really prefer to not have to use a mail-order bride site but will do so if necessary! **erruss**, 35, 📷, **#132184**

NICE, BUT OBLIVIOUS
Hi I'm looking to restart my social life after being a workaholic for the past years. Looking to meet new people. Enjoy spending time with friends, but prefer divey places. **gar2401**, 38, 📷, **#132162**

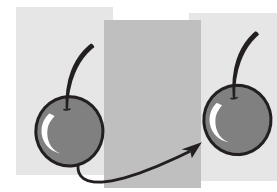
GROWING WEARY...
I like to workout, read, watch good movies and drink good wine after a good meal, music. that's it... **sikey**, 36, 📷, **#132154**

SARCASM SWEET SARCASM
How would you like to meet a tall funny guy who is intelligent, vivacious, and tidy? I'll let you know if I see him around. **redundant_oxymoron**, 32, 📷, **#132148**

WITTY, SARCASTIC, FRENCH
I'll be moving to Austin in a couple weeks time so I'm really just here to meet some new people, and if something develops from there then we shall see. **MrFrench**, 24, 📷, **#132117**

LIFE,BEAUTIFUL ,SHORT.
Easy going person, not much for crowds although Enjoy going out. I would like someone that is creative & supportive, that I can be supportive of. I enjoy scifi, pool. **phillyrob817**, 46, 📷, **#132118**

...JUST -A-SHOT AWAY
live music! I love travel,I have many lands yet to explore this big blue world. I've lived in many areas,chronologically, Charlotte NC, Seattle WA, San Francisco CA & Austin Texas. **SouledAmerican**, 39, 📷, **#132091**



WANNA BE FRIENDS?
I haven't dated in a while and I'm ready for a change. Looking for someone fun and funny, independent and drama free who enjoys the fine art of hanging out. **NIceGirl78**, 30, 📷, **#132097**

SCIENCE/MUSIC NERD
I just moved here and I'm many hours away from everyone I know and love. I love learning, reading, science, playing music, making jewelry, nature, my frogs,cooking, and unplanned adventures. **velvet-goldmine**, 23, ☎, 📷, **#131887**

LOOK BETTER ON
im Ace. moved to austin 2 weeks ago. love to laugh. very single. college student. love coffee. im very blunt, not rude. love mexican food. looove walks. really laid back. **AceOf-Spades**, 20, 📷, **#131753**

ADVENTURE BECKONS
fun, genuinely funny, three-year texan seeks someone to enjoy life with. spiritual is a plus. **pleasantly-human**, 29, 📷, **#131741**

NEW TO TOWN
Just moved to Austin from Florida. I also just graduated nursing school. For fun I like working out when I can, watching or playing sports, movies, chilling, food, downtown. **Swoosh12101**, 23, 📷, **#131567**

I LIKE QUESO
i don't really know what i am looking for, but i'm sure i will when i find it. **allietea**, 24, 📷, **#131071**

QUEEN SEEKS COURT
Let's go skinny dippping at night under the stars and drink wine by the pale of the moon. Make me laugh, make me happy - I'll reciprocate! **brownsugarjones**, 44, 📷, **#120282**

NEW TO AUSTIN
Generally a really positive person, I live life to the fullest and without regrets because my mistakes have proven to be my best teachers. **juicebysarah**, 23, 📷, **#131478**

DINO-S-RAWR
This lovely lady is into designer jeans and thrift store T-shirts. Pizza and beer, lots of yoga and a passion for green living. Ridiculously grown-up, but total Peter Pan syndrome. **Pedal-estrian**, 25, 📷, **#131366**



Flavor of the Week

hellyeskids Age: 25

FUN!

I make films/videos, perform comedy and play music. I love riding my bike everywhere, going to shows, watching films, reading, hanging with my friends. I make killer burritos too!

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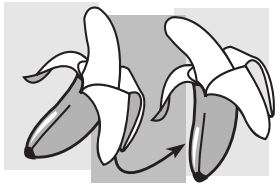
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SMART, LOVING, LOYAL.
I am honest and very blunt. Love cuddling. Love being outdoors. Love animals and nature. If you want to know something about me ask it. **Gabe7373**, 22, 📷, **#131975**

NICE AND SIMPLE
Laid back guy seeks low drama situation with another guy. Enjoy hanging out with friends, margaritas, red wine, dining out. Road bike riding, 24Hour Fitness. Dog lover. Disease/smoke free here. **jodetx**, 50, 📷, **#131890**

OPERA OR PUNK
Wait a minute... He likes Opera and punk? He likes Grindhouse and Love, Actually? He likes Chez Nous and The Salt Lick? Is fun and capable of making a committment? **pparker**, 53, 📷, **#131728**

LOOKING FOR LOVE
Originally from Boston. I enjoy going back east to visit family. I'm looking for someone with the same intrests, cooking, taking walks, talking about the importent things in life. **It-TakesTwo**, 47, 📷, **#131616**

HIPSTER GAYSIAN WANTED
Are you: awesome? asian? hipster? hilarious? social and homebody? 21-30ish Do you: like electro and indie? dance? drive? want to find love? I'm: skinny, white, 6'01", dark hair musician, hairdresser. **artist4asian**, 22, 📷, **#131400**

ROMANCE 2 WILD
I love a man that thinks about me first thing in the am and the last thing at nite. hand holding and cuddling is a must, as is kissing. **man2man**, 52, 📷, **#131299**

NEW TO AUSTIN
Very blessed, spiritually-changed. 51 GPM ISO honest, outgoing, totally real, self-confident and self-loving gay man who wants to work hard on a friendship and relationship together. **newtoaustinguy**, 51, 📷, **#131167**

LAID BACK GUY
Been single too long. Laid back guy here who loves meeting new people. Looking for that one special person to hang out with, get to know, and see what happens. **AustinRomance**, 32, 📷, **#128768**

SLAY MY DRAGON
A regular guy who believes in 'happily ever-after'... seeks prince in shinning armor to slay the Lonely-Ness monster. **tkaustin**, 48, 📷, **#119526**

just FRIENDS

LOVE TO LAUGH!
I love to laugh but who doesn't. I am told I have a great smile and love showing it.I enjoy watching sports, playing pool, and watching all kinds of movies. **nayzia**, 28, 📷, **#132138**

SOFT, STRONG, TRUE
I'm really interested in what's sacred in this world, and living a humble, moderate, and simple life. Interested in honest, real people. **kayagreen**, 19, **#132124**

BAKING, MACABRE, CRAFTS
Looking for a girl friend, nothing sexual, just a friend to hang with. Must enjoy baking, sewing, watching horror movies, making crafts, shows, tattoos, pin-up girls, Dia de los Muertos. **SpookTheKitty**, 23, **#132113**

DON'T READ ME
I'm who I'm, which means I'm nobody. **bbenitez**, 24, **#132110**

messages

KURT MENSINGER AND/OR
CARL STARKEY "Rocket" Riley is looking for y'all or ANYONE with info please contact me at: planorocket@aol.com

a shot in the dark

UNCONVENTIONAL CRAIGLIST MEETING
Me, attached. You, younger. Both of us hot, confused, engaged. Child called, that was the end. I wonder even if wine was an invitation. Steve, are you there? I'm free. **When: Tuesday, April 15, 2008. Where: 45th/Duval. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904579**

SASSY BARISTA EASTSIDE
Tall red lipped Thunderbird. Karibu? Small black coffee. **When: Friday, January 1. Where: Thunderbird. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904578**

BUYING JEANS
You were gorgeous, with long black hair, in a gray sweater. We laughed as I got a 2short from a mannequin. Sorry I didn't ask for your number... lunch sometime? **When: Sunday, January 3. Where: Lakeline Mall. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904577**

DANCE W/ME LATER?
Did you just walk around!? :) Met you & pals, smiled, thought Damn, she's... yeah! DEFINITELY wanted to take you up on that dance. lost you. sigh. **When: Saturday, January 2. Where: Red Fez. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904576**

WELLS FARGO BEAUTY
You- gorgeous, dark haired teller at north Austin Wells Fargo. Me- slim guy withdrawing a paltry $10. You seemed something special, made me nervous in a good way. **When: Wednesday, December 30, 2009. Where: Wells Fargo Far W. Blvd. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904575**

LEFT HANDED DUNLOP
You left your card there and came in to get it on the 30th. Keep that card in your pocket and let me buy you a drink or two. **When: Wednesday, December 30, 2009. Where: Saxon Pub. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904574**

WHITE GLOVES RUNNER
XMAS DAY, HIKE AND BIKE. We smiled. Wish I'd turned around... You: man wearing white gloves Me: woman wearing green jacket. **When: Friday, December 25, 2009. Where: hike and bike trail. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904573**

TWO HEADED DOG
Tattoo @ Target. You said excuse me and touched my elbow. It made my heart flutter. Next time I won't get out of the way! **When: Sunday, December 20, 2009. Where: Target I35. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904568**

GROOVYBOOTS GARDEN DISTRICT
12/28 Saw you sitting on the couch with a friend reading this column. I was sitting across with a book finding it hard not to gawk at your gorgeous smile! **When: Monday, December 28, 2009. Where: Garden District. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904571**

REDHEAD AT TARGET
You: wonderful red hair, cute skirt, boots. Buying men's clothes for a boyfriend? I hope not. Me: bearded guy buying socks. When you flashed me a smile, I was giddy. **When: Wednesday, December 23, 2009. Where: Target. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #904564**

HEY, WHEELCHAIR GUY!
Traveling in Austin, I took in the LBJ library. We chatted briefly, I went off to join my peeps. Wish I'd stayed to find out more. What were you thinking? **When: Friday, December 4, 2009. Where: LBJ Library. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904560**

CONTINENTAL CLUB UPSTAIRS
You: Tall/red cap pulled way down low. Me: Blond you grabbed to dance- that didn't say no. We moved our hips/ shared a great kiss. Still wondering, "Where did you go?" **When: Monday, December 21, 2009. Where: Continental Club Upstairs Gallery. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904565**

POST-RUN COFFEE
Blonde runner (wearing tights and running shoes) ordering a purple smoothie. Made eye contact and smiled a few times - wanted to say something, but didn't. Run with me sometime? **When: Sunday, December 27, 2009. Where: Lift Coffee on South Lamar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904570**

SUPER SINGLE DAD
You:Black truck struggling with 3-4 kids in the HEB Wells Branch/I-35 parking lot on Dec.20th. Me:Red Jeep. I told you that you sure have your hands full. I'm interested. **When: Sunday, December 20, 2009. Where: HEB @ Wells Branch/I-35. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904559**

SEXY METAL DUDE
You were looking at paint/stains on Saturday at my work. I was wearing a brown velvet hat. Please say I didn't miss my only chance to flirt with you! **When: Saturday, December 19, 2009. Where: Eco-Wise. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904558**

TOPS PARTY UNREACHABLE
Sexy,Lorenzo.. We met briefly at the party. Didnt have the chance to say what I wanted..I had on black slacks,short black jacket. Sheryl knows where I am. Kelley. Let's meet..... **When: Saturday, December 19, 2009. Where: Tops Christmas party. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904556**

UNACCOMPANIED MINOR MEETING
we sent off kids at gate 12, made some small talk, my heart skipped a beat when you turned to say "take care" before walking away. coffee/ conversation sometime? **When: Friday, December 18, 2009. Where: austin airport. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904555**

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DSW CUTIE!
You were my cashier at DSW on Mopac,12/28,8pm. We made eye contact,you commented about my shoe size,we had light conversation. Pick up where we left off? **When: Monday, December 28, 2009. Where: DSW Shoes at Arbor Walk. You: Man. Me: Man. #904572**

STEIN MART WESTLAKE
I never, ever do this...but...I helped you find Christmas sweaters for an office party...and red suspenders...then saw you at Barton Creek Mall. Mike. I was a complete spaz. **When: Saturday, December 19, 2009. Where: Stein Mart in West Lake. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904563**

GORGEOUS HOSPITAL NURSE!
You incredibly nice and helpful to my grandmother. Let me return the favour: buy you coffee and show you Austin (beats Kansas!), with good company included. Damn Broncos, go pats! **When: Monday, December 28, 2009. Where: AustinHeart Hospital. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904569**

FROM NEW ORLEANS
You were wearing an orange tee-shirt and we were both originally from Louisiana. We spoke briefly and you wanted to watch the Saints game. I want to talk again. **When: Saturday, December 19, 2009. Where: CVS pharmary at Brodie and Slaughter. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904567**

BSSALOON KNOCKOUT
You: Too popular to get in a good conversation. Dark top and a jean skirt. Me: Gray shirt, We locked eyes and met briefly. You should become a regular. **When: Wednesday, December 23, 2009. Where: Barton Springs Saloon. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904566**

BARNES/ NOBLE SATURDAY
You, tall, strawberry blond. We exchanged smiles. You had on a pretty black-gold-orange jacket. Me, tall blond with beard. xmas shopping can skew priorities. Would rather have been meeting you. **When: Saturday, December 19, 2009. Where: Barnes & Noble. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904561**

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Brezsny for Jan. 8-14

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): "You are what you love, not what loves you," says the character Charlie Kaufman in the film *Adaptation*. (Kaufman is played by Nicolas Cage, who has three planets in Capricorn.) I urge you to work hard to make that perspective your own, Capricorn. Ideally, it will become a permanent addition to your philosophy of life. But please at least try to install it as your primary words to live by for the next three weeks. To do so will smooth out a distortion in your energy field, making it easier for people to love you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): I suspect you have to go down into the underworld for a while. But you have a choice about how it will play out. You shouldn't wait for some random goblin to come along and pull you down into the miserable abyss. Instead, be proactive. Shop around for a more useful abyss – a womblike pit with half-decent accommodations and a good learning environment – and go there under your own power. That way you won't have to slog your way through musty fogs and creepy pests and slimy muck. You'll keep your suffering to a minimum and attract adventures that are more intriguing than demoralizing.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): When my acupuncturist pushes a needle into my chest, my feet sometimes twitch involuntarily. A jab in my earlobe can cause my hand to leap off the table; when she pokes the bridge of my nose, my liver may throb. The lesson for me is that parts of the body are linked in ways that aren't obvious. I invite you to expand this principle as you use it to evaluate the interconnections between different areas of your life. How do your attitudes about love affect your ability to attract money (and vice versa)? Are there any ways in which your capacity for happiness is affected by your political views? How do your judgments about other people affect your physical health? More than even you far-seeing Pisceans imagine, everything's linked to everything.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): According to my reading of the astrological omens, it'll be a hair-on-fire kind of week for you – and yet also a heart-in-repose kind of week. In other words, you have the potential to be fierce *and* relaxed, vigorously ambitious *and* sublimely poised. In fact, this might be one of those rare times when you can be both a justice-dispensing warrior and an enlightenment-seeking magician. Want to turn water into wine when the pressure's on? Find the pearl of great price in the heat of the battle? Feats like these are quite possible.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Can you pull off a midcourse correction while hurtling through the air across a chasm during a leap of faith? If anyone is capable of such a feat, you are. However, I'd prefer it if that weren't necessary. I'd rather see you prepare a little better, like by procuring the help you'd need to create a safety net or sturdy bridge that will stretch across the chasm. Or by getting one of those jet packs to strap across your back and allow you to fly. Or by taking as much guesswork as possible out of the details about how you're going to get from the edge of one cliff to the edge on the other side.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): This is one of those rare times when you can get abundant access to insider secrets, unauthorized information, taboo knowledge, and forbidden wisdom. Proceed carefully. As much as I'm an advocate of you getting to the whole truth and nothing but the truth, it's also my duty to remind you that it could be disruptive to find out all of the truth in one big swoop. You should ask yourself if you're fully prepared to change what needs to be changed once the previously hidden stuff emerges. If you're not, it might be better to wait until you are.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Which metropolitan areas in America have the most brainpower? Not the best sports teams or the richest businessmen or the most powerful politicians, but the smartest people? The Daily Beast did a study and declared that the top two were the Raleigh-Durham area in North Carolina and the San Francisco Bay Area. Now it so happens that those are the two places where I've spent much of my adult life. It doesn't mean I'm brilliant, but it does suggest I have an instinct for knowing where the brilliant people congregate. And I'm quite sure that they have been a very good influence on me. My recommendation to you in 2010, Cancerian, is to cultivate this knack. Gravitate toward genius. Surround yourself with deep thinkers and innovative dreamers. Hang out in the vicinity of brainstorms.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): "The more you complain," says an old adage, "the longer God lets you live." If that's true, I hope you will be adding many years to your lifespan in the coming week. Would you like to live to the age of 100? There are many rich and colorful opportunities for you to lodge protests right now. You have cosmic permission to rouse a ruckus in the name of improving the way everything works. But try to concentrate on constructive criticism that really helps transform what's stuck. The Divine Wow is more likely to give credit for that approach than for mere narcissistic grousing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): A reader calling herself Rebellioness collaborated with me to come up with five revolutionized approaches to the art of rebellion. I present them here for your use, as they identify the kinds of behavior that will be most nurturing for you to cultivate in the coming weeks: 1) experimenting with uppity, mischievous optimism; 2) invoking insurrectionary levels of wildly interesting generosity; 3) indulging in an insolent refusal to be chronically fearful; 4) pursuing a cheeky ambition to be as wide awake as a dissident young messiah; 5) bringing reckless levels of creative intelligence to all expressions of love.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): I want to tell you about Harj, a character in Douglas Coupland's novel *Generation A*. He's an enterprising young Sri Lankan man who sells "celebrity room tones" over the Internet. Each hourlong recording purports to convey the sound of the silence that pervades the homes of luminaries like Mick Jagger and Cameron Diaz when they're not there. I think that you Libras are now primed to learn from Harj's example. Like him, you have the power to capitalize on nothingness and absence and emptiness.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A guy I know broke up with his girlfriend recently. He used a time-honored strategy: making it sound as if he wasn't worthy of her. "It's like you're a grand master at a chess tournament," he told her, "while I just got my first checkerboard and am still figuring out how to play checkers." He was implying that she was much more skillful than he was in the art of relationships. I have a feeling that there's a situation like this in your world, Scorpio – an alliance in which the two parties are at different levels of maturity. I'm not necessarily saying you should sever the connection. But you should at least acknowledge the gap and decide what to do about it.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): In a million years, I would never authorize you to unleash your naked greed and give it unconditional license to careen through the world gobbling and acquiring and appropriating. However, due to an odd blip in the astrological configurations, I am at liberty to give you permission to unleash your discerning, elegant greed and grant it a temporary dispensation to sample more than usual of anything that captivates your ravenous imagination.

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